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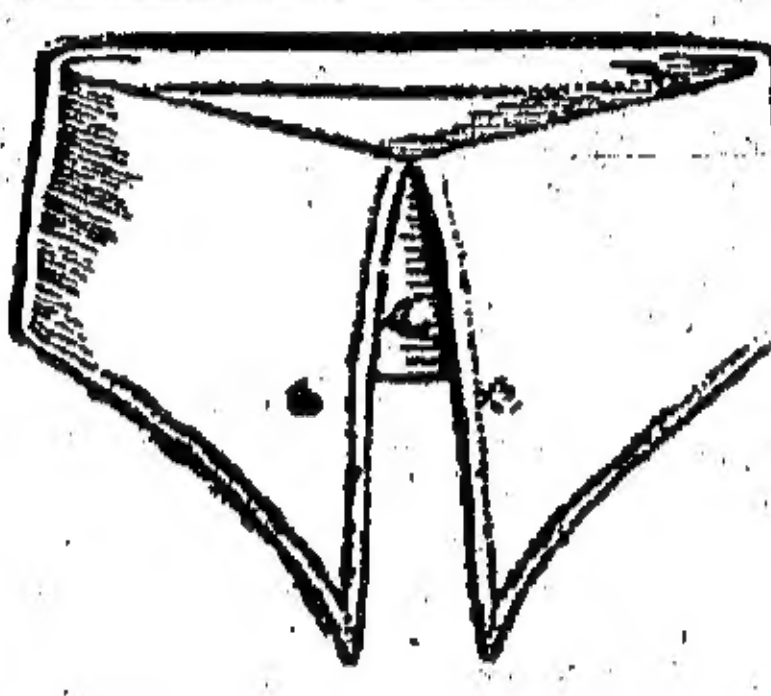
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CANTON'S CONTRIBUTIONS TO WAR CHARITIES.

A further sum of £408 13s. 6d. subscribed by British Residents in Canton has been remitted to London during May, June and July as undernoted:—
Mesopotamia Comforts Fund £ 50
National Refugees and Training Ships "Arethusa" and "Chichester" 25
Officers' Families Fund 25
Royal Flying Corps Hospital 25
Soldiers' and Sailors' Families Association 160
St. Dunstan's Home for Blind Soldiers 38/13/6
Emergency Cases Hospital 50

2408/13/6

The following is a list of the subscribers for the last three months:—

S. M. Bander, \$3; R. K. Batchelor, \$30; F. G. Boeke, \$60; F. N. Bell, \$75; E. S. Bennett, \$20; W. Boanas, \$10; G. H. Bowker, \$40; Rev. A. H. Bray, \$15; C. 530; Canton Club Bowling Handicap, \$50; E. J. Charrington, \$15; K. A. J. Chokirai, \$30; T. Chipperfield, \$15; Church Collection, \$25.70; King's Birthday, \$65; J. E. B. de Courcy, \$45; A. H. Craig (Kongmoon), \$15; J. H. Crocker (Nanning), \$40; O. W. Darch, \$40; N. J. Detarum, \$5; H. F. Dent, \$150; P. A. V. Dixon, \$15; O. Eager, \$30; H. Ellis, \$30; H. T. Ford, \$75; D. Forbes, \$120; E. A. C. Friedrichsen, \$15; Roy, C. A. Gaff, \$15; E. J. Gaffard, \$80; T. E. Griffith, Ltd., \$28.94; H. P. Harris, \$30; F. L. Oakley Hill, \$30; A. V. Hogg, \$30; Dr. A. W. Hooker, \$30; P. Hotchand, \$10; A. Hosen, \$30; D. B. Izatt (Kongmoon), \$15; J. W. Jamieson, C.M.A., \$50; Rev. P. Jenkins, \$15; King's Birthday Celebration balance, \$23.33; Miss A. M. Jones, \$5; G. C. Kitching, \$30; A. Komaroff (Kongmoon), \$15; J. McDonald, \$30; Rev. G. H. McNeur, \$7.50; Rev. J. D. McLaure, \$25; R. T. Matheson, \$30; Abo Martin, \$15; A. Millar (Samshui), \$30; H. G. Mullin, \$5; Nairairi, Metharam, \$30; Nenunai, \$5; C. A. Peel, \$30; G. L. Read (Hongkong), \$30; C. H. Reid, \$10; Dr. W. G. Reynolds, \$15; J. Ross, \$5; St. George's Society (per O. W. Darch), \$325; H. H. Sandeman, \$30; H. C. Scrimshaw (Kongmoon), \$15; C. H. Shields, \$150; J. D. Smith, \$30; L. Staples Smith, \$50; W. Gordon Stokes, \$30; E. C. T., \$50; Rev. G. S. Tope, \$30; Assumall Wassiamull, \$75; V. P. Waters, \$10; C. E. Watson, \$30; R. J. White, \$30; W. C. H. Weipport, \$50; A. G. Wilson, \$30; E. M. Wood, \$30; N. A. Worley, \$10.

Total \$5,028.57

250

Copies of the Circular issued by the Committee with regard to War Charities can be obtained from Mr. D. Forbes, Hon. Treasurer, care of Hongkong Bank, Canton, to whom further donations and subscriptions should be sent.

From among the letters of acknowledgment received the following, dated 14th May, 1937, from the Chairman of the Finance Committee, British Red Cross Society, shows how much even small contributions are appreciated:—

"I beg to acknowledge with many thanks the receipt of your letters of 21st February, and 24th March, enclosing drafts value £100 and £12 respectively, official receipts for which are enclosed herewith.

"Once again the members of the Joint Committee desire me to convey to you and through you to our kind friends in Canton, our very warm and sincere thanks for this further generous support, and I beg to assure you all how highly we appreciate the practical manner in which you continue to show your sympathy and interest in the work we are carrying on for the sick and wounded."

OUR PORTUGUESE ALLIES AN APPRECIATION.

A correspondent of the *Observer*, commenting upon an inspection of a Portuguese battalion in England recently, says:—

"An interesting ceremony that took place this morning was an official inspection of a Portuguese battalion which has completed its intensive training and is ready to go into the line. The men looked very sturdy and war-worthy, and their smart bluish grey uniform and workmanlike equipment called forth general praise."

"British officers who have associated with the Portuguese contingent during their training in France speak of them in terms of unfeigned appreciation. They say that they are untiringly keen and particularly efficient in patrol duties, sniping and bombing. In a recent map-reading competition open to all comers a Portuguese officer won on points. The field artillery of our Peninsular Ally is excellent, and the cavalry arm has called forth the admiration of the most exacting critics, alike for the quality of the horses and the manner in which their riders sit them."

"The fitness of the organisation of this valuable addition to the Allies' strength on the Western front is remarkable. Yesterday I saw Portuguese engineers running out telephone wire with great swiftness. They have their own transport ambulance train, field guns, and, as far as I can learn, the only part of their equipment for which they relied upon us was rifles and tin helmets."

"I feel an infinitely greater confidence to-day than I did when I first saw these troops some four months ago that they may be trusted to give a very good account of themselves when they get in among the Boches."

FAR EASTERN MEN AND THE WAR.

Private W. C. Taylor, also of Reiss & Co., Shanghai, has been awarded the Military Medal for gallantry under fire.

Major Payne, formerly Chief Mechanical Assistant in the Electricity Department, Shanghai, has just been awarded the D.S.O.

2nd-Lieut. J. H. Smart (Royal Engineers), formerly of Shanghai, has been awarded the Military Cross for conspicuous bravery in the field.

Mr. J. Rutcliff, late of Jardine, Matheson & Co., Ltd., Shanghai, joined the 3rd Battalion Artists Corps, and is at present training at Romford, Essex.

Lieut.-Colonel F. N. Thorne, Royal Sussex Regiment, killed on April 18th, was the son of the late Mr. Joseph Thorne, of Shanghai, and Southover Grange, Lewes.

News has been received to the effect that 2nd-Lieut. T. M. K. Fletcher (5th Bedford Regiment, formerly of the International Cotton Manufacturing Co., Shanghai), was killed on the Hindenburg line during the latter part of April.

Capt. Colin Stockwell, who was born in Hongkong, has been awarded the Legion of Honour, for evacuating the inhabitants and saving the sacred images from shell-fire, out of the church of Mailley-Maillet, before the fight on July 1st of last year.

News has been received from Mr. Hobson in London that his son, Capt. H. G. Hobson, R.A.M.C., who was with the 130th Battery R.F.A., Salonika Army, was wounded on April 30th. He was away from duty for a month, but sent a cable to his father on May 30th saying that he was returning to his unit to duty. No details are known as to the injury received.

Capt. F. W. Clifton, 2nd Lincolnshire Regiment, formerly of Reiss & Co., Shanghai, has been presented with the ribbon for the Military Cross for showing "great tactical ability and conspicuous gallantry." His Company was in close support to the attack, and when the right of the attack was temporarily held up by the wire not being cut, he immediately grasped the situation and sent a platoon of his Company through a gap further along the wire, and so relieved the situation. Afterwards, under very heavy shell-fire, he marked out positions on the objective with the greatest ability and coolness, for his Company was consolidated, and by his example and leading greatly helped towards the success of the enterprise. "This officer," adds the report, "has been in the country a considerable period and has always shown the greatest ability and initiative."

A PORTUGUESE CHAIR.

CAMOENS' PROFESSORSHIP AT KING'S COLLEGE.

On the lines of the Cervantes Chair of Spanish, which was established last year, it is now proposed to establish a Camoens Chair of Portuguese Language and Literature in the University of London. King's College, as a timely and due tribute to the intellectual achievements of Portugal, and as the best means of promoting in the Metropolis of the Empire the study of the language, history, social and economic conditions, of Portugal and Portuguese-speaking countries.

The scheme has already been most favourably received in England, in Portugal, and in Brazil, and a committee has been formed to further the project with H.E. Senhor Teixeira Gomes, the Portuguese Minister, and H.E. Don Xavier, the Brazilian Minister, as honorary presidents. The Prime Minister of Portugal has signified his willingness to become hon. patron of the committee.

Sir Frederick Cook and Mr. Herbert Cook have inaugurated the Professorship Fund with a donation of £1,000.

The foundation of a Chair of Portuguese, the language of our oldest Ally and of the great countries that look to Portugal as the motherland, comes at an opportune moment, for at present there is no Chair of Portuguese in any British university. It will not only serve commercial interests, but it has been rendered urgent by a call from high quarters for providing adequate teaching of Portuguese for important national purposes. The title of the professorship, which is due, *The Times* understands, to the felicitous suggestion of Professor Gollance, is an apt counterpart to the Cervantes Chair, for there is no greater name in Portuguese literature than that of Camoens, the noble patriot-poet of his nation, who sang in stanzas which no Englishman who reads them should fail to appreciate, of the glories and hardships of maritime enterprise, of the call of the East, and of the expansion of a small Power into Imperial greatness. The new project should win the support of all lovers of good literature as well as of men of affairs desirous of strengthening the bonds of friendship between the country and Portugal and Brazil.

HONGKONG'S TYPHOON SIGNALS.

According to an article in the current issue of *Shipping and Engineering* the new local signals which have recently been issued in Hongkong will, apparently, not be acceptable to the China Coast Storm Signal Stations. It had been hoped for some time that a uniform code of signals would eventually be arranged, thus simplifying the difficulties of navigation on the China Coast in the typhoon season, instead of rendering it more difficult, as will undoubtedly be the case if different sets of code signals are issued by the various observatories.

CONTRASTS IN AUSTRIA.

VIENNESE GAIETY AND DISTRESS.

TREATMENT OF BRITISH PRISONERS.

[FROM "THE TIMES" CORRESPONDENT AT VIENNA.]

I have received on excellent authority the following account of conditions in Austria as they existed up to a very few days ago:—

A person visiting Vienna to-day neither sees nor hears anything of the war. He finds the city full of people who seem to think of nothing but enjoyment; the cafés—where conversation about the war is taboo—are full of people from morning till night, the restaurants, where everything except bread and potatoes can be obtained, if one's purse is long enough, are crowded; the opera and the theatres have nearly every seat booked in advance and the cinemas are filled at every performance. In the fashionable streets of the city one cannot help remarking the extraordinary number of officers of all ranks and of both services, who appear to have no other duties than to make themselves agreeable to ladies. Both morning and afternoon the pavements are so crowded that progress is a matter of the utmost difficulty. On all sides are fine shops full of the latest fashions which find purchasers even at the prevailing exorbitant prices. Everything is up to date and of the best, but only within reach of the rich.

If one makes inquiries below the surface, however, one finds that housekeeping, even on the most modest scale, is almost an impossibility, owing to the difficulty of obtaining supplies. The rich solve this difficulty by giving up all idea of catering for themselves and going to a good restaurant for most of their meals, but to those of moderate or small income the food problem is an ever-increasing anxiety. The question is no longer "What shall I buy?" but "What can I buy?" for it is impossible to procure many articles which were formerly regarded as necessities.

THE CARD SYSTEM.

No longer can a customer, unless he can afford to pay a fancy price, choose a piece of meat; he must be thankful for anything he can get. Bread is not to be bought, except with a bread card at a particular shop in the district in which the purchaser dwells, and very often he cannot get bread at all. The supply of potatoes is limited to 1lb. per person weekly, but for some weeks recently there were none on the market. Milk is so scarce that no person can have more than about one-fifth of a pint daily. Such things as coffee, butter, fat, macaroni, rice, petroleum, soap, and leather are not to be bought. Cards are the order of the day—bread cards, fat cards, sugar cards, coffee cards—indeed, meat is about the only article of food for which a card is not necessary. This is because it was found that the demand for meat was not increasing, presumably on account of its prohibitive price. But as one Viennese plaintively remarked to my informant: "What earthly use are the cards to me if I cannot procure the articles to which they are supposed to entitle me?"

The shops are full of substitutes and prices have gone up enormously—in many cases as much as 30 or 40 per cent. A pair of men's boots of medium quality costs kr.85 (at pre-war rates, £3 10s.), a lounge suit kr.300 (£12 10s.), and now a small box of sardines kr.4.50 (3s. 9d.). Meat ranges from kr.5 (2s.) to kr.14 (11s. 8d.) per kilogramme (2.2lb.). Butter is kr.14 per kilogramme, and one candle (candle size) costs 70 or 80 hellers (8d.). Cheese costs, kr.5 (2s.) to kr.7 (5s. 10d.) per kilogramme, and everything else is in proportion.

The poor people are not noticeable in the streets. They are only heard of by chance, as it were, and their distress and privations during the past winter, owing to the scarcity of coal and coke and the price of food, were the cause of numerous deaths from "hunger-typhus." Attempts are now being made to relieve their wants, and cheap meat is being supplied to the really needy; but however cheap this meat may be, it is not of much use if the money is not forthcoming to pay for it.

In the country life is strenuous. The villages and small towns are peopled by old men, women, and children, for every man and youth capable of holding a weapon has been drafted into the Army. Day in and day out, from early dawn till late in the evening, the entire population of a village may be seen working on the land trying to raise a crop sufficient for their needs during the coming year, after a very large portion of the harvest has been commandeered by the Government to feed the Army—and Vienna. Even in peace time the peasant lives frugally, but now he has to be content with his piece of black bread, which he soaks in his substitute for coffee, and his knödel (a kind of dumpling), and he may consider himself very fortunate if he can add eggs from his own fowls and potatoes from his own patch of ground. Meat he very seldom tastes, as he cannot afford to buy it, and he has also to do without many articles, as they are unobtainable in the shops.

HOPES FOR PEACE.

The attitude of the people towards the war may be described as one of total indifference—except in regard to its duration. The only desire of the people is for peace, "no matter who wins." For some little time there have been persistent rumours that Austria was about to make a separate peace. Indeed, the Burgermeister of Vienna has spoken very openly and freely about the desirability of peace. Letters received from Vienna have spoken of peace almost as a *fait accompli*. If Austria could shake off German influence and get good terms she would make peace to-morrow, but as she knows that she would be obliged to give up so much of her territory she is obliged to continue the fight, in the hope that something may turn up. As an Austrian soldier friend of my informant expressed it:—"We are beginning to realize that all along we have been the tool of Germany, and whether we win or lose we shall have to pay, and pay dearly."

From the Press it is most difficult to gather anything about the real state of affairs except as regards Parliamentary (Continued at foot of next column.)

ITALY'S TWO YEARS OF WAR.

CREATION OF A GREAT ARMY.

[FROM "THE TIMES" CORRESPONDENT.]

ITALIAN HEADQUARTERS, May 23rd.

To-morrow is the second anniversary of Italy's formal entry into the war, and the fact that the opening moves in a very big battle have just been successfully carried out by our Allies makes it especially fitting to call attention to the date.

When the European war broke out, Italy had no army in the modern sense of the word. She had men, rifles, and field guns, and not too many of the latter. During the nine months she remained neutral many gaps were filled, but it was impossible to bring her equipment up to the required standard. It must always be remembered that Italy's industrial resources were very limited, and that they were not easy of development. Italy produced no coal and no iron, and the output of her steelworks was small. Nor was it easy for her to supplement her deficiencies from the outside. England, France, and Russia had earlier calls on neutral resources, and Italy could only secure, so to speak, the leavings.

For a year at least after declaring war Italy was in a position which ought to be appreciated by all Englishmen. General Cadorna had to rely on the heroism of his soldiers to make up his deficiencies in munitions. Italy had her Neve, Chapelle and Loco, in the autumn of 1915, on the terrible glaciers of the Carso, on the steep sides of Mt. Sabotino, and among the crumpled hills of Oslavia. A year ago came the great Austrian drive in Trantino, and still human bravery had to stand up to defy a superiority in armament. But the tide was turning. Italy was becoming industrialized to an unprecedented extent. Although the question of coal and raw material was still giving much anxiety, guns and munitions were piling up. In the late summer and autumn Italy was able to strike hard, and but for bad weather, which seems to fight against the Allies, she would have added more than one blow to those with which she shook the Austrians.

Now after two years' work on the front and in the factories, the Italian Army proves a magnificent weapon of war, forged, tempered, and tried, and its efficiency depends simply upon a continued supply of war material. In these last days it has given the fullest proof of its efficiency.

There are people who imagine the Italian to be a light-hearted, dashing person, full of go and fire, but lacking solidity and persistence. I wish they could see the Italian Army working to-day—in infantry, artillery, and transport. They would see the qualities of the pious legend, but they would see also patience, tenacity, thoroughness, and the fruits that come from these.

reforms, which is being kept in the foreground and dangled before the eyes of the people to prevent them from dwelling upon more important matters. Every paper is carefully censored, and papers frequently appear with a column or more blank; it is not an unknown thing for a number not to appear at all.

BRITISH PRISONERS.

Any account of Austria would be incomplete without a short account of the conditions of life of the British civilian prisoners. These number only a few hundred and are divided into two classes, *Konfiterien* and *Internierten*. *Konfiterien* are those who have sufficient private means (which in cases of necessity can be supplemented by a small monthly grant from the Government) to pay their own expenses, and are allowed to reside in certain small villages and have a restricted amount of liberty. They receive no help at all from the Austrian Government in the way of rations, but are dependent upon the local hotels and shops for their supplies, which very often fail altogether, besides being outrageously expensive. *Internierten* are men without any money at all, are collected in internment camps, which really are large wooden barracks situated somewhere in a park or in a compound surrounded by barbed wire, and these men are allowed no liberty at all. Rations are served out daily, and each man receives from the Government 40kr. (£1 13s. 4d.) a month, as the amount of food supplied is not sufficient and has to be supplemented from the canteen. The food has become steadily worse in quality and quantity until it may be said without exaggeration that the men exist chiefly upon the parcels they receive from England. Potatoes, carrots, etc., are things of the past, and turnips, lentils, and a kind of vermicelli form the staple food. Meat is served out on certain days, but the portions could easily be larger and better in quality.

The discipline varies considerably in the various camps, according to the disposition of the commandant. Some are most lenient and others seem to take a delight in making the prisoners' lives wretched by doing everything to cause them annoyance. This is not astonishing, perhaps, when one thinks of the position in life the commandants occupied before the war and the temptation to abuse the power entrusted to them. If only military men instead of such civilians as head waiters or railway conductors could be placed in charge of the camps the prisoners' lot would be a happier one.

Last winter was an especially trying one for the prisoners owing to the scarcity of coal and wood and the impossibility of obtaining oil for lighting and cooking purposes, and it was by no means a rare occurrence for men to be for days on end without firing or light. Even in the Central Hospital, in spite of all the doctors could do, the general wards were on several occasions without fires, and once for more than a week the whole building was in darkness, as there was no petroleum to work the electric dynamos and no candles could be obtained. It is sincerely to be hoped that the Austrian Government will take steps during the coming summer and autumn to procure a large supply of heating materials, oil, and the stores for the use of the prisoners next winter, or there are bound to be serious illnesses. The good health of the British prisoners may be attributed wholly to the care of their countrymen in providing for their wants.

THE "PHEUMPENH" CASE. CHIEF ENGINEER SUES CAPTAIN FOR LIBEL.

There was a sequel to the *Pheumpenh* Marine Court case at the Hongkong Summary Court yesterday, when the former Chief Engineer of the vessel, W. J. Stokes, and who was the defendant in the Marine Court case, sued Captain de la Sala, master of the ship for libel, claiming \$1,000. The alleged libel was contained in the log book entries.

The Hon. Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., appeared for the complainant, and Mr. R. F. Mattingley represented the Captain.

The allegations of libel were contained in a long statement. These were to the effect that on April 10th the defendant falsely and maliciously wrote and published of the plaintiff in relation to his position as Chief Engineer of the *Pheumpenh* the following words in the official log of the vessel, namely, "On April 9th, 10th and 11th, Hongkong to Singapore, the master (meaning the defendant) has this day found it necessary to command the chief engineer, W. J. Stokes, to cease making unnecessary trouble concerning the drinking water of the vessel. This is the third consecutive day (April 11th) that W. J. Stokes has deliberately produced samples of water, declaring that it was stagnant, and that each time that the master has told him to pump over the side for several minutes as to flush out the pipes thoroughly he has changed his opinion after the water had been tasted by the ship's doctor, the master, the chief officer and comrades, who agreed that it was fit for human consumption. The reason that the master has made this entry is on account of his fear, by the action of W. J. Stokes in parading dirty water along the deck in a glass tumbler, that it would incite trouble among the 900 odd emigrants, who had been taking notice of the Chief Engineer's actions."

The long entry went on to allege that such actions on the part of the Chief Engineer might possibly have caused panic, trouble and disorder on the vessel, which might have led to disastrous results on account of the ignorance of the emigrants. After due consideration and reflection the master had come to the conclusion that he must, in the interests of himself, the owners, and of all concerned, warn the Chief Engineer from carrying out, or attempting to carry out, any act that would prejudice or injure in any way the vessel, or any person on board, and he had warned the Chief Engineer that any attempt to commit any act of barratry against the ship or her machinery, or to attempt to influence any person on board to do so, would be regarded by the master most seriously, and that any punishment that the law of Great Britain allowed would be asked for, and that the fullest enquiries would be made as to his conduct on board the vessel. And the officers signing that entry were warned by the master that he (the master) considered the Chief Engineer to be a dangerous and malicious person, and relied on them to notify him, at any time, should the Chief Engineer act or behave in a suspicious manner.

Mr. Pollock remarked that the defence which would be put forward would be that there was justification, and also that the publishing was made on a privileged occasion and without malice. The points on which those pleas were based were set out at length in a letter from Messrs. Deacon, Looker, Deacon & Harston, and Mr. Pollock went on to read the plaintiff's reply to that defence. It was stated that the finding of the Marine Court enquiry showed that Stokes "carried out his duties in a proper way." There were really two defences, one being justification and the other that of publication on a privileged occasion. The plaintiff was putting that plea of justification in issue, and, as regards the question of privilege, that was absolutely decided by the Marine Court, because the finding read "We are of opinion that the chief engineer on this occasion carried out his duty in a proper way and to the best of his ability." If there were any privilege, that did not extend to the doctor and comrades of the ship, to whom the log was read, and also did not extend to the whole of the entry. The plaintiff alleged malice, in fact, Mr. Pollock went on to argue points of the case, and stated that a log was always for the entry of "occurrences," and certain

HONGKONG MAGISTRACY. ALLEGED THEFT.

A Chinese coolie was charged before Mr. J. R. Wood with broaching cargo whilst employed in the Kowloon Godowns. It was alleged that defendant had opened a case of spoons and was caught in the act of stealing the spoons from the case.

Defendant pleaded not guilty, and said the case had fallen and broken open.

He was arrested while repacking the spoons which had fallen out.

The defendant was remanded.

SOMETHING WRONG.

A Chinese was charged with snatching half a sovereign and a pendant off a watch chain. Inspector O'Sullivan said complainant alleged that he was calling a sampan when defendant came up and snatched the pendant. A curious thing about it was that neither the pendant nor the chain were broken, and witnesses would be called who would say that the pendant was hanging off the chain when the cry was raised.

Defendant was discharged.

"FISHY."

A Chinese woman was charged before Mr. J. R. Wood, at the Police Court this morning, with attempting to export two tins of Government opium.

A *lukong* said he was engaged in searching defendant's basket and he found the drug.

Defendant admitted that some of the contents were hers, but not the opium. She also asked the *lukong* to arrest another woman.

His Worship said there seemed to be something fishy about the case. The *lukong* first said that he had searched the basket while on duty and then said that he had received information. The woman would be discharged.

QUEEN'S COLLEGE SPORTS PRIZES.

At the Queen's College yesterday the Headmaster presented the prizes won in tennis and volleyball. The winners in the tennis competitions were:

Championship Singles.—S. Nagano (prize presented by Mr. S. E. Green); S. S. R. Ismail.

Championship Doubles.—Wei Lan-san and A. Rumjahn (prizes presented by Ng Sze-kwong and Carroll Brothers).

Handicap Singles.—S. Nagano (prize presented by Lo Shung-wan).

Handicap Doubles.—Wei Lan-san and A. Rumjahn.

The members of the senior volleyball team, who won the Volley-ball League, were each presented with a silver badge. The proceedings terminated with cheers for the Headmaster, the donors of the prizes, and the successful competitors.

tainly more than half of the entry was not about an "occurrence," but was what the Captain thought of the chief engineer. It really took the form of abuse. As regards justification, the plaintiff would say that the defendant was stopped from publishing by the finding of the Marine Court. Mr. Mattingley—We don't admit that we are stopped.

Subsequently his Lordship intimated that he would like to see Counsel and solicitor in Chambers.

A conference then took place in Chambers, and eventually between the parties, after which the Hon. Mr. Pollock remarked that he was happy to tell his Lordship that a settlement had been arrived at between the parties, and, by consent, judgment against the defendant was asked for for \$500, this amount to include costs. Payment of \$200 would be made forthwith, and the remainder would be paid by monthly instalments of \$50.

His Lordship then gave judgment accordingly.

Mr. Mattingley stated that while willing to consent to judgment, at the same time, the defendant wished him to say that at the time he made the entry in the log book he was satisfied that he was acting within his rights as Captain of the vessel.

The Hon. Mr. Pollock interjected that that was not part of the terms of settlement. They had let the Captain down pretty well. They had not said that they wanted an apology, or wanted this or that, as they might easily have done.

His Lordship remarked that unless they were asking for an apology it was not worth while to argue further. A settlement had been arrived at, and he thought they might leave it at that.

SHANGHAI LIBEL CASE. NEW TRIAL ORDERED.

EXCESSIVE DAMAGES AWARDED.

In H.M. Supreme Court, Shanghai, on the 12th inst., judgment was delivered in the appeal lodged by Mr. Hayley Morris against the verdict given in the trial of an action for libel in favour of Dr. E. L. Marsh for \$5,000. The ground of the appeal was that the damages awarded by the jury were excessive.

The Judge, Sir Havilland de Saumarez, in the course of his judgment, said:—There was evidence, that the defendant Hayley Morris published the libel with the express purpose of ruining the plaintiff's practice in Shanghai, and there can be little doubt that it would if uncontradicted have had that effect; the plaintiff was therefore forced to appeal to the protection of the Court. The innuendo was that the plaintiff was more concerned for the observance of medical etiquette than for the welfare of his patient; inasmuch as the patient, who was a man of some prominence in the place, had died, and the letter inferred that it was owing to the plaintiff's sticking for etiquette that the death had taken place, the libel was as serious as it could be.

The defendant's counsel has pointed to certain matters which, he says, the jury must have overlooked, though they were brought to their notice by the Judge. That the defendant was at first advised by no improper motive, as the deceased gentleman was a great friend of his; that in the letter itself the plaintiff's name was not mentioned, so that except to those who knew the circumstances, and at all events excluding persons resident elsewhere than in the East, he would not be likely to be prejudiced by the publication; and that he did after all by his withdrawal even at the eleventh hour relieve the jury of the duty of determining the truth of the libel.

We have one indication of the amount of damages to which the plaintiff thinks he is entitled—he settled with two defendants for \$500 which was to be paid to a hospital; I can imagine a man of high character preferring that money of his should go to a charitable purpose rather than into his own pocket, but nevertheless the amount must in some measure reflect the extent of his hurt. Suppose the defendant Hayley Morris had come in with the other two and made full amends by withdrawal, is it likely that the sum of \$500 would have been more than doubled? True, he did not, and his attitude was such as to enhance the damages, but even so, can it be said that his \$500 would have been more than doubled? I find it difficult to think so. If that is so it must be that the jury thought that they ought to add \$4,000 as a punishment, say if you like, \$3,500. Will such a sum bear the test applied by Hamilton L. J. that there must be some reasonable relation between the wrong done and the solution applied? It is difficult to imagine any Court imposing such a fine, though I can sympathize with the jury in their wish to strongly mark their sense of the use to which this young man has put the public Press and his outrageous conduct in his campaign against the plaintiff. I think they have in this way misunderstood the measure by which damages should be assessed and that they have imposed a fine out of relation to the offence committed; that being so the verdict cannot stand.

Unless the parties agree on the amount of damages, as to which the Court will be ready to give what assistance it can, there must be a new trial. This must be solely as to the amount of damages; there has been no application to disavow the finding of the jury on any other issue.

THE ASSISTANT JUDGE.

In agreeing, the Assistant Judge (Mr. Skinner Turner) said:—The result of the case seems to me to be that the Court of Appeal from the circumstances of the case and the amount of damages must be driven to the conclusion that the jury in awarding the damages either look into consideration matters which they should have omitted or failed to take into consideration matters which they should have considered, or applied a wrong measure of damages altogether. It is not necessary for the applicant to show perversity on the part of the jury or that the verdict is one at which no reasonable body of men could have arrived. In my opinion the damages awarded are excessive. I can find no reasonable relation in them to the wrong done. In the libel itself the plaintiff's name was not mentioned, thereby lessening the harm likely to follow from the publication of a libel in a newspaper to go all over the world. The plaintiff proved no special damage at all (and the action was tried three months after the publication of the letter); he did not estimate his damages in his statement of claim; he accepted \$500 to be paid to an institution as the damages from the actual publishers of the libel. In addition the verdict was found in sterling, unusual in this Court and foreign to the plaintiff's very serious and no doubt the jury intended, as they were fully entitled to do, to mark their sense of the defendant's conduct right up to the moment of their verdict. But even so, I am quite unable to see any method whereby the jury can have arrived at a figure like \$5,000. It seems to me, judging from the circumstances of the case and the amount of the damages, the jury must have applied a wrong measure of damage; probably allowing their feeling of sympathy for the plaintiff or disgust with the defendant to run away with their reason. Under these circumstances there must be a new trial. I am aware that here this is probably not altogether satisfactory; but it is the only course now open to this Court. It may be that the parties can obviate the necessity and expense of this new trial by agreement (see judgment of Alderson J. in *Price v. Severn*, 7 Bing. N. 390) or possibly the help of this Court or of one of its Judges might lead to that result.

Their Lordships decided that each party should bear their own costs in the appeal and that the plaintiff should not be deprived of his costs in the first trial. The Judge also expressed his willingness to assist the parties in arriving at a settlement.

THE SOUTH AND THE SITUATION IN THE NORTH.

CIVIL GOVERNOR OF KWANG-TUNG'S PROPOS. LS.

According to the native Press, a telegram, of which the following is a summary, was sent by General Chu Ching-lan, Civil Governor of Kwangtung, to General Tsen Ch'un-hsuan of Shanghai, on the 4th inst.:

Just received telegram of 3rd instant from Liang Chih-chao, informing me that Shi-jui has started from Mach'ang with troops against rebels and Peking will be recovered in a few days and so on. Chuang Hsuan will surely be defeated, so the question of Manch'oo restoration may be dismissed at once.

But the restoration of Parliament is a matter of very great importance. I suggest its restoration should be achieved at Nanking during the period when Vice-President Feng is acting as President and forming a provisional government there. If we wait till peace in Peking is restored, this step may give rise to disputes and troubles between different parties. It would be much easier to accomplish this when the Tichans are much upset by turmoil and when they have no time to look elsewhere. I suggest your Excellency approach and confer with the members of Parliament at Shanghai in secret, and to get them, never mind how many members are available, to go to Nanking and open Parliament there by themselves. I, Ching-lan, have already secretly consulted with the south-western provinces, who are unanimously agreed to recognize and protect them.

For, if the "question" at Peking is to be settled in the manner as I hear, there will be no end of trouble in store for us in the future. It is all the more imperative, therefore, to push the military influence of the south into the centre of the Yangtze-kiang regions, so as to hold the best position. Only then would we be able to command respect for our voice. I have collected together 20 ying (about 10,000 men) of the police-guard force, with which I propose to enter the Yangtze River by the sea route, to be followed by the Yunnan troops later on. I pray you to obtain the Navy's assistance speedily helping us in the transportation of our troops, as this is most important.

LADY ROBERTS' FIELD GLASS FUND.

The Hon. Mr. E. R. Hallifax, Hon. Secretary of the Hongkong War Charities Committee, has received the following further appeal for field-glasses:

"Engineers," Ascot, Berks. May 25th, 1917.

The Hon. Secretary, Hongkong War Charities Fund, Hongkong.

DEAR SIR,—I feel dissident of asking further help where so much has been done already, but if you could see your way to bring to the notice of the British community that the need for glasses and telescopes still goes on, I should be very grateful.

In the recent movement in France, many glasses were lost with the brave men using them, while the more open character of the fighting now in progress has sensibly increased the demand. Further, we learn from the letters how indispensable telescopes are for scouting, sniping, and artillery observation.

Since I wrote last the address of the Fund in London has been altered, and glasses should now be sent to:—The Manager, Lady Roberts' Field Glass Fund, 64, Victoria Street, S.W. 1.

I will, of course, gladly acknowledge any that can still be spared.—Yours truly,

ROBERTS.

Glasses can, if preferred, be sent to the Hon. Secretary, War Charities, Post Office Buildings. It is mentioned that in response to the appeals which have been issued through the Press some 20,000 glasses have been lent. The demand, however, grows daily more insistent. Those responsible for the scheme are in a position to say that every good glass lent means the saving of gallant lives.

"INDISCREET" QUESTIONS
CHARGE AGAINST TRAVELLER.

At St. Albans, before a full bench of magistrates, recently, Arthur Leathard, a Sheffield commercial traveller, was charged on remand with having attempted to obtain military information of a nature calculated to be useful to the enemy. It was stated, however, that accused was a British subject, with his only two available relatives fighting in the Army. He was given an excellent character, and the Bench dismissed the charge, expressing the opinion that he had been very indiscreet.

It was stated in evidence that Leathard had inquired of soldiers how many troops were in the district, the strength of a particular battalion, whether there had been any Zeppelin raids and whether there were any anti-aircraft guns. He had also inquired whether a load of ammunition which was being unloaded was ball or blank. He was arrested at Peterborough.

Mr. Lord Williams, for accused, said the dragging of a perfectly good British subject of unquestioned *bona fides* into court and prison for a loose conversation with soldiers under this particular section was calculated to bring the section into disrepute and the court into disrepute. England was not Prussianised yet.

Accused on oath denied that he put other than casual and ordinary questions to the soldiers. Evidence of character having been given the Bench, as stated, dismissed the case.

The 1,000th day of war, April 28th, passed rather quietly at the front. Not since Napoleon's time have we been engaged in a 1,000 day war; and then—from May 18th, 1803, to June 22nd, 1815—it lasted 4418 days. The African war stopped short of four figures on the 962nd day, and the Crimean War ended on the 72nd. The Spanish-American and the Russo-Japanese Wars lasted 569 and 575 days respectively.

INTIMATIONS

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

(ESTABLISHED 1850)

TELEPHONE 1741

TROPICAL WEIGHTS IN AERTEX CELLULAR SHIRTS & UNDERWEAR.



AERTEX VESTS

\$2.00 to \$3.50 Each.

AERTEX DRAWERS

\$2.00 and \$3.50 Per Pair.

AN AERTEX CELLULAR COTTON VEST (HALF SLEEVE) AND TRUNK DRAWERS, as illustrated, is An Ideal Suit of Summer Underwear.

WHITE LISLE DAY SHIRTS

SOFT CUFFS.

\$3.75 and \$4.75 Each.

WHITE LISLE TENNIS SHIRTS

COLLAR ATTACHED.

\$3.75 Each.

WHITE "COTELLA" DAY AND TENNIS SHIRTS

\$2.75 Each.

Wear AERTEX Cellular

and keep cool.

AERTEX ventilates the body—lets out the heat and keeps the skin dry and cool. It prevents that uncomfortable warm feeling caused by too closely woven underwear. It is beautifully soft and will not irritate the most sensitive skin. Doctors recommend it as the most healthy fabric ever invented.

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

DRINK "BULL DOG" LAGER BEER.

SUPERIOR TO ANY GERMAN LAGER BEER EVER BREWED.
BRITISH THROUGHOUT.

Brewed in Great Britain.

Bottled by British Labour.

OBTAINABLE AT—

PRICES DUTY PAID.

Wing On Co., Ltd.

QUARTS—\$20.00 per case

Sincere Co., Ltd.

of 4 dozen.

Sun Co., Ltd.

or \$5.10 per dozen.

Cheong Tai.

PINTS—\$26.50 per case

Nam Hing Loong.

of 8 dozen.

Ty Sing.

or \$3.40 per dozen.

Sang Tai.

Kwan Tye.

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

Obtainable in Canton from

SINCERE Co., Ltd.

Stocked by

THE HONGKONG HOTEL.



FRESH STOCKS JUST ARRIVED.

Wm. Powell Ltd.

TELEPHONE 544

JUST ARRIVED!

WHITE AND COLOURED

VOILE GOWNS.

12, DES VŒUX ROAD.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

THE PEAK CLUB.

Notice to Members.

THE Band of the 74th PUNJABIS will play at the PEAK CLUB on SATURDAY, 21st July, commencing at 9 P.M. (Weather permitting).

E. L. SIM,
Hon. Secretary,
The PEAK CLUB.
[857]

GOVERNMENT BILLS, ETC.

TENDERS FOR SPECIE current in SHANGHAI, up to and for the sum of \$500,000—current in Shanghai, will be received by the TREASURY CHEST OFFICER, ARMY PAY DEPARTMENT, until 11 o'clock A.M. on the 20th July, 1917.

The amount accepted is to be placed by the tenderer to the credit of an account with the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION, Shanghai, so as to be available on the 21st July, 1917.

The sum now advertised for includes \$100,000 advertised for on THURSDAY, 19th July, 1917.

Persons tendering to state alternatively (a) The amount of Hongkong currency payable in Hongkong on 21st July required for each \$1,000—Shanghai currency and/or (b) The amount of Dollars current in Shanghai per \$100 for telegraphic transfer to the London Commission of the Treasury, London.

The tenders to be in duplicate and in sealed covers, addressed to the TREASURY CHEST OFFICER, ARMY PAY DEPARTMENT, and endorsed "TENDERS FOR GOVERNMENT BILLS, ETC."

The right to accept or reject any or all of the tenders is reserved.

Copies of forms of Tender can be had on application.

Persons tendering for (Bills) are hereby notified that having regard to the provisions of the Acts 22 George III, Cap. 46 and 41, George III, Cap. 52, the acceptance of any such Tender is subject to the express condition that no Member of the British House of Commons shall be admitted to any share or part in or to any benefit to arise from the Contract thereby made for the allotment of such (Bills).

"The provisions in question do not apply to Contracts entered into by an incorporated Company in its corporate capacity and made for the general benefit of the Company."

Any further information can be obtained by personal application to the TREASURY CHEST OFFICER, A.P.D.

F. J. THURSBY-PELHAM, Lt. Colonel,
Treasury Chest Officer, A.P.D.,
His Majesty's Treasury Office,
Hongkong, 20th July, 1917. [858]

COMMERCIAL UNION ASSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

FROM this date until further Notice Mr. GEORGE FREDRICK DUM-BARTON has been Appointed Acting Local Manager of the Hongkong Branch of this Company.

W. H. TRENCHARD DAVIS,
Manager for China.
Hongkong, 16th July, 1917. [840]

THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT AND AGENCY CO., LTD.

AN INTERIM DIVIDEND OF THREE AND A HALF DOLLARS per Share for the six months ending 30th June, 1917, will be Payable on THURSDAY, 26th July, on which date Dividend Warrants may be obtained on application at the Company's Office.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from WEDNESDAY, the 18th, to THURSDAY, the 26th July (both days inclusive) during which period no Transfer of Shares can be registered.

By Order of the Board of Directors,
A. SHELTON HOOPER,
Secretary.
Hongkong, 16th July, 1917. [828]

THE WEST POINT BUILDING COMPANY, LIMITED.

AN INTERIM DIVIDEND OF THREE DOLLARS per Share for the six months ending 30th June, 1917, will be Payable on THURSDAY, 26th July, on which date Dividend Warrants may be obtained on application at the Company's Office.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from WEDNESDAY, the 18th, to THURSDAY, the 26th July (both days inclusive) during which period no Transfer of Shares can be registered.

By Order of the Board of Directors,
A. SHELTON HOOPER,
Secretary.
Hongkong, 16th July, 1917. [828]

RUSSIAN 5% INTERNAL LIBERTY LOAN 1917.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the RUSSO-ASIATIC BANK, HONGKONG, IS READY TO RECEIVE FURTHER SUBSCRIPTIONS TO THE ABOVE LOAN UP TO THE 26th JULY, 1917.

G. TISDALL,
Manager,
Russo-Asiatic Bank.
[824]

WANTED.

EXPERIENCED LADY TYPIST and **STENOGRAPHER** required for a month or two from beginning of August, prospects of permanent position.

Apply—
MARK,
Care of "Daily Press" Office.
[834]

WANTED.

ASSISTANT BOOKKEEPER for Engineering Costs. Apply in own writing with copy references and stating salary required to—
W. S. BAILEY & Co., Ltd.
[835]

AUCTIONS

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned has received instructions from the Liquidators of Messrs. JESSEN & Co. in pursuance of an order of the Hongkong Government, to sell by Public Auction at 12 o'clock (Noon) on TUESDAY, the 31st day of July, 1917, at his Sales Rooms, Duddell Street, THE VALUABLE LEASEHOLD PROPERTY situate at The Peak, Hongkong, and being RURAL BUILDING LOT No. 19, In One Lot.

The Property Consists of:—
The piece or parcel of ground and premises known as "Lysholt," 104, The Peak, situate near Mount Gough, in the Colony of Hongkong, with an area of 124,032 square feet and registered in the Land Office as Rural Building Lot No. 19.

The Lot is held for the unexpired residue of a term of 76 years created therein by an indenture of Crown Lease dated the 23rd day of April, 1898.

The Annual Crown Rent is \$85.00.
For further particulars and conditions of sale apply to

Messrs. WILKINSON & GRIST,
Solicitors for the Liquidators,
or to the Undersigned,
GEO. P. LAMMERT,
Auctioneer.
[597]

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned has received instructions from the Liquidator of Messrs. WITTE & Co. in pursuance of an order of the Hongkong Government to sell by public auction at 12 o'clock (Noon) on MONDAY, the 27th day of August, 1917, at his Sales Rooms, Duddell Street, Hongkong, All the pieces of ground situate at Yamnang, Kowloon, in the Colony of Hongkong, and registered in the Land Office as KOWLOON INLAND LOT No. 269.

In One Lot.
The property consists of a piece of ground abutting on Bakery Street and Fourth Street (near the Praya) in Kowloon, and contains an area of 4,500 square feet.

The Lot is held for the unexpired residue of a term of 76 years created therein by an indenture of Crown Lease dated the 4th day of May, 1898.

The Annual Crown Rent is \$60.
For further particulars and conditions of sale apply to

Messrs. HASTINGS & HASTINGS,
Solicitors for the Liquidator,
or to the Undersigned,
GEO. P. LAMMERT,
Hongkong, 23rd May, 1917. [658]

HOUSES TO LET

FLAT, May Road level, for 2 or 3 months, from 1st August. "S."
Apply to—
Care of "Daily Press" Office.
[856]

TO LET.

N. O. 6, STEWART TERRACE Peak, Furnished or Unfurnished immediate possession.
Apply to—
DENNIS & BOWLEY.
[948]

TO LET.

DEVONIA, No. 9, Peak Road, SIX-ROOMED BUNGALOW, with Garden and Tennis Court, with HOUSES in Shumien, Canton, Nos. 31 and 33.
Apply to—
DAVID SASSOON & Co., Ltd.
[806]

TO LET.

OFFICES at 2, Connaught Road Central.
OFFICES in King's and York Buildings.
A HOUSE, Knutsford Terrace (Kowloon).
HOUSES in Wongsiching Road.
HOUSES in Clifton Gardens, Conduit Road.
HOUSES in Broadwood and Moreton Terraces.
HOUSES on Shumien, Canton.
Apply to—
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT AND AGENCY Co., Ltd.
[828]

TO LET.

FIVE-ROOMED HOUSE, with Tennis Court, in Minden Villas, Kowloon.
A FLAT in Nathan Road, Kowloon.
Apply to—
HUMPHREYS ESTATE & FINANCE Co., Ltd.,
Alexandra Buildings.
[638]

TO LET.

NO 26, BELILIOS TERRACE, 3 and 4-ROOMED FLATS at the Peak ONE GODOWN in Duddell Street.
Apply to—
LIMSTEAD & DAVIS,
3rd Floor, Alexandra Buildings.
[830]

TO LET.

ANY EUROPEAN, Non-Asiatic or Indian desiring to leave the Colony should apply in person at the CENTRAL POLICE STATION between the hours of 9 A.M. to 1 P.M. and 2 P.M. to 4 P.M. daily.

Applicants will be required to produce Passports or identification papers.

All persons with certain exceptions who remain in the Colony for more than 7 days are required to register themselves under the REGISTRATION OF PERSONS ORDINANCE 1916.

Forms of Registration giving the particulars required may be obtained at the G.P.O. and at all Police Stations.

The Penalty for non-compliance is a fine not exceeding \$50.

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The Penalty for non-compliance is a fine not exceeding \$50.

AUCTION

For Sale

by

Public Auction.

Subject to the conditions prescribed by the Straits Settlements Alien Enemies (Winding-up) Ordinance, 1914, as amended from time to time by Ordinance, 1 of 1916, XIX of 1916, XVI of 1916 and VI of 1917 and as adopted in this State:

All that land known as THE RATU LIMA ESTATE consisting of about 1,016 acres, 1 rood, 33 perches held under East Coast Country Grant No. 49 for 999 years from 1883, RENT FREE. About 275 acres of the land is planted with rubber (150 acres in bearing) and 50 acres with coconuts 3 to 4 years old.

Situated on main road within 5 miles of Sandakan Wharf.

The following buildings in good condition are on the Estate:

- 1 bungalow (49' x 30') containing 2 bedrooms, dining room and verandah. Corrugated iron roof, plank walls, tiled floor.
- 1 Store (48' x 22'). Corrugated iron roof, plank walls.
- 1 Smoke-house (24' x 30'). Corrugated iron walls and roof, earth floor.
- 1 Factory (32' x 16'). Corrugated iron roof, plank walls, cement floor. Contains 2 hand machines, 25 latex pails and over 9,000 cups.
- 15 Coolie houses (each 18' x 14'). Plank walls, thatch roofs.

The above property will be sold by Public Auction in the Court House at Sandakan at 12 o'clock Noon, on SATURDAY, 20th October, 1917.

RESERVE PRICE \$100,000 (ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS) STRAITS SETTLEMENTS CURRENCY.

(NOTE:—This reserve price has been based on a report on the Estate by the Honourable Mr. F. E. Leese, Manager of Sapping Estate).

The sale is subject to the following conditions:—

- \$30,000 (Singapore Currency) to be paid on purchase and the balance by monthly instalments thereafter of \$10,000. Interest at the rate of 7% per annum will be charged on instalments overdue and default for 30 days will invalidate the sale and render the deposit and all instalments liable to forfeiture.
- Upon payment of the deposit an agreement will be executed by the liquidator undertaking to complete the transfer of the estate, free of all incumbrances, on payment of the final instalment of the purchase money.

And to the following special condition:—

- The purchaser must be a British subject and not under any foreign influence; he will be required to satisfy the Governor that no person of enemy or foreign origin is directly or indirectly interested with him in the purchase, and he must make such statutory declaration in that behalf as may be required by the Governor.

(2) For the purposes of this sale any person entitled under the Land Laws of North Borneo to rank as a Native shall be deemed to be a British subject.

(3) In the case of a Company formed for the purpose of acquiring the business its Memorandum of Association must contain special provisions, to be approved by the Governor, to exclude the possibility of the Company falling under foreign control. Generally speaking, it will be necessary to prevent more than one-fourth of the shares or the voting right being held by, or subject to the control of, foreigners.

(4) In the case of a Company already in existence, if the Articles of Association do not already so provide, they must be altered in a manner satisfactory to the Governor so as to exclude the possibility of the Company falling under foreign control, and the Directors must furnish an undertaking to use their best endeavours to have the provisions referred to above inserted in the Memorandum of Association if legislation should be introduced enabling the Memorandum of Association to be altered by the insertion of such provisions.

(5) Should the Governor for any reason not approve of the purchaser, the contract may be rescinded by the Governor and the deposit will be returned without interest or expenses.

Further particulars may be obtained on application to the undersigned.

W. W. SMITH,
Liquidator

RESIDENT'S OFFICE,
SANDAKAN, NORTH BORNEO,
29th June, 1917. [813]

G. O. R.

NOTICE.

ANY EUROPEAN, Non-Asiatic or Indian desiring to leave the Colony should apply in person at the CENTRAL POLICE STATION between the hours of 9 A.M. to 1 P.M. and 2 P.M. to 4 P.M. daily.

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The Penalty for non-compliance is a fine not exceeding \$50.

BY APPOINTMENT.

INTIMATION

BY APPOINTMENT.

WATSON'S

PYERIS.

Registered.

An exact reproduction of a well-known Spa at half the price.

Blends perfectly with Spirits, especially Whisky.

"A little learning is a dangerous thing, Drink deep or touch not the Pyerian Spring. There shallow drafts intoxicate the brain And drinking deeply sobers us again."—Pope.

PINTS 90 CTS. PER DOZ.

*PLITS 60 " " "

A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.,

ERATED WATER MANUFACTURERS.

TELEPHONE 436

[12]

MARRIAGES.

GRANT—KURTZ.—At H.B.M.'s Consulate-General, Shanghai, on July 12th, JOHN HAMILTON GRANT, to Mrs. GENEVIEVE KURTZ.

SCOTT—DIXON.—At H.B.M.'s Consulate-General, Shanghai, DONALD CAMERON SCOTT, to LAVINIA DIXON.

DEATHS.

PHILIPPE.—At his residence at Chemulpo (Korea), on July 11th, ANDRE PHILIPPE, aged 48.

MOSEY.—At Eastbourne, on May 29th, Florence, elder daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G. Besset, late of Shanghai.

HONGKONG OFFICE: 10A, DES VUEUX ROAD, C. LONDON OFFICE: 121, FLEET STREET, E.C.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, 20th JULY, 1917.

THE GERMAN CHANCELLORSHIP.

By the downfall of Dr. von BETHMANN-HOLLEWEG an outstanding figure in European politics retires into obscurity. Appointed Imperial Chancellor in 1909 in succession to Prince von Bulow, he conducted the negotiations in regard to Morocco with France in 1911, and made the overtures by which it was hoped to keep Great Britain out of the war in 1914.

He will long be remembered as the author of the phrase describing the treaty guaranteeing the integrity of Belgium as "a scrap of paper." Recently he seems to have fallen into disfavour with both the Pan-Germans and the more pacific party in the Reichstag, and for precisely opposite reasons. With the former he became unpopular because of his reluctant acquiescence in the policy of "frightfulness," which he recognised as a grave political mistake; while by the latter he was regarded as the protagonist of militarism. His end has evidently been hastened by Austrian influence. Weary of the war and of the military control which Germany has usurped, the Emperor CHARLES is known to favour peace on the basis of no annexations and no indemnities.

As the result of a visit to Vienna, where the Catholics are strongly represented, some of the prominent members of the Clerical Party in Germany were converted to these views, and seized an early opportunity of giving expression to them. At first it was thought that Dr. von BETHMANN-HOLLEWEG's retirement

would pave the way for graceful concessions by the KAISER in regard to domestic reform and war policy. REUTER's representative in Holland, however, now states that Dr. von BETHMANN-HOLLEWEG insisted on the "No Annexation" policy, which was opposed by the KAISER, the CROWN-PRINCE, and Generals HINDENBURG and LUDENDORFF. Of Dr. MICHAELIS, the new Imperial Chancellor and Foreign Secretary, little is known and conflicting opinions are held. He is described by the Berlin Correspondent of the Cologne Gazette as "the nominee of the armament industry," and his selection is approved by the Conservative organs on the ground that he has "a vigorous personality of great firmness."

On the other hand, the leading Socialist newspaper of Baden says that the insight which he has gained, as Food Controller of Prussia, into the economic distress of the people, should preserve him from over-estimating the strength of Germany and pursuing a policy beyond her strength. The general impression, however, appears to be that the change means a triumph for the militarists. It will be in the best interests of the Entente Powers if this prove to be the case. This opinion is not based upon the belief, that the contempt shown for their wishes will goad the democracy of Germany into a state of revolution, for we fear that they have been too well drilled and disciplined to take the control of affairs out of the hands of their rulers so long as the military power of the empire remains unbroken. We are thinking rather of the effect upon our Russian allies. The significance of the change will not be lost upon them, and they will no longer lend an ear to the blandishments of the enemy. The situation in Germany, however, should soon be defined if, as announced, a resolution is about to be introduced into the Reichstag affirming that the German people do not desire conquests; that they are fighting for liberty, independence, and the integrity of their territory; that they desire a peace of conciliation and a lasting reconciliation of all peoples; an economic peace; and the freedom of the seas. An attempt will, no doubt, be made to obscure the real issue, but, however skillfully this is done, the discussion cannot fail to prove illuminating.

The Punjabi band will play at the Peak Club on Saturday night, weather permitting.

We understand that Dr. Asger and Dr. Kow have been appointed dental surgeons to the Government Civil Hospital.

The black drizzle, indicating that a gale was expected from the East (N.E. to S.E.) was hoisted yesterday. A typhoon was reported to be somewhere to the south-west of the Pratas, travelling slowly in a W.N.W. direction, which would bring it to the near neighbourhood of Hongkong.

We learn that a short time ago Mr. Tso Tsan Tai, captured at his fishery at "Seeton" Estate, behind Stonecutters Island, a gigantic garoupa weighing over 200 pounds. Three boats were employed in getting the fish free from the net, which had to be cut open at the bottom. This extraordinary catch created great excitement amongst the villagers of Tsau Wan.

The following officers, who have all served in Hongkong in recent years, have been mentioned in the latest despatches from Field-Marshal Sir John French: Colonel W. B. Brown, Captain F. B. Hitchcock, Lt.-Col. D. F. H. Logan (temp. Brigadier-General), Bt. Major J. I. A. McDiarmid, and Bt.-Col. (temp. Brigadier-General) A. A. McHardy, C.M.G., D.S.O. Col. Brown was in Command of the Royal Engineers; Captain Hitchcock and Major McDiarmid were junior gunner officers; Brigadier-General Logan was in command of the 88th Company R.G.A., and Brigadier-General McHardy was General Staff Officer until some time after the outbreak of war. Others mentioned are Major F. K. Puckle of the A.S.C., previously stationed at Singapore; Lieut. (temp. Captain) G. F. H. Faithfull, Indian Army, now Royal Flying Corps, who was in Hongkong with the 126th Baluchistan Infantry; Lt.-Col. (temp. Brigadier-General) W. M. Withycombe, C.M.G., K.O.Y.L.I., who was in Command of the Company that was sent to Hankow during the revolution of 1911-12; and Captain (temp. Major) Sir P. A. G. D. Sassoon.

The next meeting of the Church of England Men's Society will be held on Monday, July 23rd, on board the *Onesie*, which leaves Statue Pier at 5 p.m.

The *Shanghai Mercury* understands that, as the result of a petition signed by a large number of members, the Committee of the Shanghai Club has requested the Swedish Consul-General of Shanghai not to make use of the Club during the period of the War.

A Whist Drive was held in the Dockyard by the Dockyard Recreation Club, on Wednesday night. Mr. A. B. Allen carried out the duties of M.C. and handed prizes to the following successful players: Ladies—1st, Mrs. Gerard; 2nd, Mrs. Macoe; 3rd, Mrs. Goodman. Men—1st, Sergt. Clayforth, R.M.L.I.; 2nd, Mr. Lockhart; 3rd, Mr. Harrison.

The Directors of the Shanghai Dock and Engineering Co., Ltd., recommend the payment of a dividend of Tls. 9 per share—placing to a special reserve fund Tls. 130,000, and carrying forward to new account \$72,148.70.

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THE WAR.

FRENCH PENETRATE ENEMY LINE.

INTENSE FIGHTING ON RUSSIAN FRONT.

THE BRITISH NAVAL SUCCESS.

SITUATION IN RUSSIA.

Franco-Belgian front

LATEST CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

BRITISH FRONT.

RAIDS AND AIR-FIGHTS.

LONDON, July 18th.

Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—We successfully raided in the neighbourhood of Fresnoy.

There were a number of air-fights yesterday evening, in which large formations were engaged. We brought down nine and drove down six enemy machines. Four of our machines are missing.

EARLIER CABLES.

ENEMY GROUND GAINED.

LONDON, July 18th.

Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—Local fighting eastward of Monchy-le-Preaux resulted in a further gain of ground and capture of prisoners. We successfully raided north-eastward of Oosttaverne and near Bessinghe.

We drove back raiders near Wiltje.

GERMAN WIRELESS REPORT.

LONDON, July 18th.

A wireless German official report states:—There was lively artillery firing on the coast from the Yser to Lys, La Bassée Canal, Loos and Lens and on both banks of the Scarpe.

We repulsed English advances between Hollebeke and Warneton, and drove back an English attack northward of the Arras-Cambrai road, except at a narrow point westward of Bois-Duvert.

The French attacked on a five kilometre front between Avocourt Wood and westward of "Deadman Hill."

After bitter fighting the French penetrated the south-eastern corner of Malancourt Wood, astride the Malancourt-Ernes road.

LATEST CABLES.

FRENCH FRONT.

GERMAN ATTACK REPULSED.

PARIS, July 18th.

A communiqué states:—We repulsed a German attack west of the Cerny sugar factory.

EARLIER CABLES.

GERMAN COUNTER-ATTACKS FAIL.

PARIS, July 18th.

A communiqué states:—After violent bombardments the Germans delivered several counter-attacks on the positions we captured yesterday.

From Avocourt Wood as far as the slopes west of Hill 364 our energetic resistance shattered all the efforts of the enemy, who suffered sanguinary losses without regaining the least portion of the conquered ground.

IMPORTANCE OF THE FRENCH ADVANCE.

PARIS, July 18th.

A semi-official report states:—Yesterday's advance on the left of the Meuse is of considerable importance, as it releases Hill 304, which the enemy has been closely pressing. Also it has done much to clear the approaches to Verdun.

The fury with which the Germans are attacking in Champagne creates the belief that the internal situation in the Central Empires urgently demands some sort of a victory.

There is great intensity of the artillery firing on the Belgian front.

Russian front.

EARLIER CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

THE RUSSIAN FRONT.

RUSSIANS THROW ENEMY BACK.

LONDON, July 18th.

A wireless Russian official report states:—There was intense enemy artillery firing in the region of Potutory, southward of Brzezany and near Halicz.

The enemy strongly attacked southward of Novica and occupied the height.

Our counter-attacks of Infantry and Cavalry threw them back, and we re-occupied the height.

GERMAN CLAIM.

LONDON, July 18th.

A wireless German official report states:—

There was increased fighting on the Riga front southward of Dunaburg and Smorgon, and strong artillery firing at Brzezany.

We captured the Carpathian heights eastward of Nowien and repulsed counter-attacks and forced back the Russians on the Lomnica line. Artillery firing is more active on both sides of the Susita Valley, along the Putna and Sereth.

Naval Activities.

EARLIER CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

SHIPBUILDING.

LONDON, July 18th.

The following is the concluding portion of the message signed by Sir Edward Carson and Sir John Jellicoe published yesterday:—One is the class of warship that enables the Navy to hunt and destroy submarines; the other is every new merchantman that replaces a ship sunk. These weapons must be used together, and upon the men in shipyards and engineering shops depends entirely their output. How the latter can be increased concerns everyone. No measure enabling the better use of labour and machinery can be neglected. We, who are secure in our homes, owe it to the brave men who are dying hourly for us on sea, land and in the air to spare no efforts to give them the weapons with which to win the war. The Board is confident that in this supreme crisis in our history the men in the shipyards and workshops will see that this appeal does not fall on deaf ears.

CAPTURE OF GERMAN SHIPS.

OUTSIDE DUTCH WATERS.

AMSTERDAM, July 18th.

Twenty torpedo-boats participated in the capture of the German merchantmen. It is asserted that several shells fell on the Coast.

The *Handelsblad* alleges that the affair occurred inside the territorial limits, and hopes the Government will protest against this act as a breach of neutrality, but eye-witnesses describe the attack as four miles off shore.

The captures are welcomed by the British Press, as evidencing the success of the new measures to terminate the increasing traffic between Dutch and German ports.

It is pointed out that the new British minefield has increased the difficulty of the German ships, which probably had to leave the comparative safety of the Dutch waters and run out to sea and were then intercepted.

It is stated at an East Coast port that one of the enemy ships which resisted capture was the *Brussels*, of which the late Captain Fryatt was commander.

General.

LATEST CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

SITUATION IN SPAIN.

LONDON, July 18th.

A threatening situation is developing in Spain. Many Republican Deputies are proceeding to Barcelona, where, despite the Government's warning, preparations are proceeding for establishing an opposition Parliament.

A number of Republicans and Socialists have been arrested.

The Premier has gone to Edgarranjo to confer with King Alfonso.

SEAT FOR SIR ERIC GEDDES

LONDON, July 18th.

It is expected that Sir Eric Geddes will be a candidate for Edinburgh and St. Andrew's Universities.

LATER.

The vacancy in Edinburgh and St. Andrew's Universities is due to the promotion of Lord Johnson to a Scottish judgeship.

ITALIAN SHIPPING.

ROME, July 18th.

For the week ending July 15th 558 ships arrived and 400 departed. One steamer and four small sailing ships were lost.

THE IRISH CONVENTION.

LONDON, July 18th.

The *Daily Chronicle* states that Mr. Austen Chamberlain is suggested for the Chairmanship of the Irish Convention.

EARLIER CABLES.

MESOPOTAMIAN REPORT.

LONDON, July 18th.

In the House of Commons, Mr. Bonar Law announced that the Government had decided to drop Mesopotamian enquiries, and to leave soldiers to be dealt with by the Army Council in the ordinary way, and to refuse Viscount Hardinge's resignation, which had been again offered.

LATER.

Mr. Bonar Law said the Government's decision to drop the Mesopotamian enquiries was due to the objections which had arisen, and also to the undesirability of diverting the thoughts and energies of legislators and the Executive from the prosecution of the war at a critical time.

Mr. Dillon moved the adjournment in order to draw attention to the Government's refusal to accept Viscount Hardinge's resignation was rejected by 176 votes to 81.

Mr. Dillon moved the adjournment in order to draw attention to the Government's refusal to accept Viscount Hardinge's resignation was rejected by 176 votes to 81.

LATEST CABLES.

LATER.

The motion for adjournment in order to draw attention to the Government's refusal to accept Viscount Hardinge's resignation was rejected by 176 votes to 81.

MR. BALFOUR RESPONSIBLE. Mr. Dillon moved the adjournment after Mr. Bonar Law had announced the decision to retain Viscount Hardinge, due to Mr. Balfour's representations.

An animated debate ensued, in which Mr. Balfour declared he could not allow an act of gross injustice towards one of his subordinates. He himself was responsible, and if the House and the country condemned his action he would resign.

EARLIER CABLES.

BRITISH SHIPPING.

LONDON, July 18th.

The Admiralty returns of shipping for the week show:—Arrivals, 2,622; sailings, 2,920. Fourteen vessels over and four under 1,000 tons were sunk. Twelve vessels were unsuccessfully attacked, and eight fishing-boats were sunk.

U.S.A. SILVER EXPORTS.

SAN FRANCISCO, July 18th.

The exports of silver for June were 6,812,500 ounces, chiefly for China and India.

VISCOUNT HARDINGE.

LONDON, July 18th.

A number of the papers state that Viscount Hardinge's resignation is certain.

LATEST CABLES.

SEAT OF RUSSIAN GOVERNMENT.

PETROGRAD, July 18th.

On July 18th an extraordinary Cabinet Council discussed a proposal to transfer the seat of the Provisional Government to Moscow.

DECISIVE STAGE IN THE STRUGGLE.

PETROGRAD, July 18th.

It is the consensus of opinion that a decisive stage is approaching in the struggle between the forces of order and disorder. The local troops are bivouacking in the General Staff buildings and in the Winter Palace Square, where cannon are posted. Most of the armoured cars are at the disposal of the Workmen's and Soldiers' Council and the military authorities. A joint Committee of the Workmen's and Soldiers' Council and Peasants' Delegates, mentioned yesterday, passed a resolution that it was necessary to convene a Pan-Russian Congress of the Workmen's and Soldiers' Council to consider the transfer of the whole governing power to the Workmen's and Soldiers' Council.

Meanwhile the present Government must exercise power.

M. Tsereteli announced that this Congress would meet a fortnight hence at Moscow in order to prevent interference from the irresponsible part of the Petrograd Garrison.

It is noteworthy that the Moscow Workmen's and Soldiers' Council discussed the Petrograd events, and passed a resolution by 442 votes against 242 prohibiting street demonstrations in Moscow.

EARLIER CABLES.

RUSSIAN DEMONSTRATORS' DEMAND.

PETROGRAD, July 18th.

While the joint Committee of the Soldiers' and Workmen's Council and the Peasants' Delegates were discussing Monday's episode, armed demonstrators appeared outside and demanded that the Committee should itself take over the Government. The Committee passed a resolution that the very people who proposed this were the first to make attempts against the present constituted authority. Such acts as those of Monday constitute treachery and felony towards the revolutionary army who are fighting the troops of Kaiser William.

THE MILITARY DEMONSTRATION.

The Military demonstration began in the afternoon, motor-lorries bristling with machine-guns and manned by Maximilians and agitators parading the streets. As time passed nothing happened to the population, who at first kept indoors. The people emerged into the streets and watched the demonstrators with curiosity. Some regiments, yielding to the persuasion of Maximilians, left their barracks in the evening carrying arms, which was contrary to orders. One regiment marched down the Nevsky Prospect, apparently going to the Duma. Suddenly half-a-dozen distant shots were fired, and the regiment, with the spectators, bolted for cover into the doorways, from which the soldiers began a wild fusillade, which ceased when their magazines were emptied. The soldiers then came out of cover, and after an excited discussion they abandoned their march to the Duma. They returned to their barracks quietly. The city twenty minutes later wore its customary aspect.

MISSED THE PREMIER.

For hours motor-lorries full of soldiers, sailors and civilian Maximilians with pointed rifles had rushed all over Petrograd.

Six of them dashed to the Warsaw Station to prevent M. Kerensky, the Premier, going to the front. They found that M. Kerensky had left a quarter of an hour previously.

Another party seized the offices of the *Novoye Vremya*, where they made the composers set up in type a proclamation calling upon the people to appear armed in the streets and demand the overthrow of the Provisional Government, the confiscation of the bourgeois Press, and to seize the land, factories and other sources of production. The First Machine-Gun Regiment, one of the instigators of the trouble, converted the dancer Kreshinskaya's villa into their headquarters. The organ of the Soldiers' and Workmen's Council denounces the outbreak, and the firm action of the Executives of the Soldiers' and Workmen's Council, the Peasants' Delegates and the Provisional Government is expected to prevent a recurrence of the trouble.

LATER.

Thousands of sailors, soldiers and workpeople arrived from Kronstadt. The sailors had banners inscribed "Down with Authority!" and "Long Live the Commune!"

Provocative firing started in the street, followed by random machine-gun fire, causing a general panic.

THE GOVERNOR'S ORDER.

The Military Governor of Petrograd announced that in accordance with the Government's order to clear the city of armed persons disturbing order and threatening the security of the citizens, the troops are ordered to immediately proceed to re-establish order, and he requests the citizens not to leave their houses except for urgent reasons, and to close their doors in order to exclude unknown persons.

POLITICS IN CANADA.

ELECTION INEVITABLE.

OTTAWA, July 18th.

In the House of Commons, Sir R. L. Borden introduced a resolution to extend the life of Parliament for a year. He demanded practically a unanimous vote, otherwise he would not press the resolution. He deprecated an election at present as it would cause distraction and discord.

The opposition of the Liberals to the resolution makes an election inevitable.

LATEST CABLES.

LATER.

The House of Commons passed Sir R. L. Borden's resolution prolonging Parliament for one year by a majority of twenty.

Sir R. L. Borden considered the majority insufficient, therefore there will be a General Election in October.

EARLIER CABLES.

NEW K.C.B.

LONDON, July 18th.

Commodore Tyrwhitt, R.N., has been appointed a Knight Commander of the Bath.

ENEMY SUBJECTS' BRITISH TITLES.

LONDON, July 18th.

In the House of Commons, the Bill for depriving enemy subjects of British titles passed its second reading.

THE IRISH LEADERSHIP.

LONDON, July 18th.

The *Times* states that Mr. John Redmond does not intend to resign the Irish leadership or advise his colleagues to resign in order to obtain the verdict of Ireland on Sinn Féinism. No decisive steps will be taken till the results of the Irish Convention and the Nationalists' Mission to the United States are known.

RIOTING IN LISBON.

LONDON, July 18th.

There has been more rioting in the streets, and bombs were thrown on the tramway, several people being injured. The Chamber has extended martial law for one month.

THE MINISTERIAL CHANGES

NEW POLITICAL "DISCOVERY."

LONDON, July 17th.

The Ministerial changes are generally received cautiously. The Premier is congratulated on the originality and the boldness of the changes, but it is pointed out that the country, while wishing the new Ministers well, will judge them entirely on results. The promotion of Sir Eric Geddes was most unexpected, but tributes are paid to his ability, and the choice is regarded as sound. The chief controversy centres around Mr. Winston Churchill, Mr. Montagu and Mr. Addison, which the newspapers criticise according to their political complexion.

The *Morning Post* says that the appointment of Mr. Montagu is a scandal, and the appointment of Mr. Winston Churchill proves that "if we have not invented an unsinkable ship, we have discovered an unsinkable politician."

The *Times* says:—"Mr. Churchill's enthusiasm and ingenuity should be useful in the Ministry of Munitions, but it must emphatically be made clear that the country will not tolerate any attempt to resuscitate amateur strategy." The *Times* adds that it is high time that munitions production was divorced from the task of dealing with labour, and says that Mr. Montagu's selection is unfortunate.

The *Daily Chronicle* says that the wisdom of Sir Edward Carson's nomination is questionable. It is high time that Mr. Churchill's energy was harnessed in the Ministry. He and Mr. Montagu may strengthen the Government from a debating standpoint.

The *Daily News* says that Sir Edward Carson and Mr. Addison must be glad to leave the posts in which they had been so unsuccessful.

LATEST CABLES.

MR. CHURCHILL'S APPOINTMENT CHALLENGED.

LONDON, July 18th.

A Unionist Business Committee of a hundred strong has been summoned to meet to-day to consider Mr. Winston Churchill's appointment.

The Unionist and Liberal War Committees and the Parliamentary Air Committee have also been convened for a similar purpose.

Indications are that the appointment will be fiercely challenged.

Mr. Churchill addresses his constituents on Saturday.

LATER.

The *Daily News* states that Mr. Walter Long has intimated that he resents not being consulted in connection with Mr. Winston Churchill's appointment.

The Liberal War Committee intends to retaliate about Sir Edward Carson's appointment if the Unionists make a dead set against Mr. Winston Churchill.

HUN SPYING IN SPAIN.

Revelations regarding the German espionage system in Spain are given by the *Temps* special correspondent at Barcelona, which city has been the centre of an extensive secret service since the beginning of the war.

Numerous secret wireless stations have been found, and as soon as the police discover one, another takes its place. During the night rockets are often seen rising from near the port, giving information to U-boats.

The organisation is in the hands of five men, who are known to everyone in Barcelona. Each takes charge of a separate department, such as espionage in France, the transmission of messages to submarines, surveillance of the Allies' agents, and so forth. Unscrupulous individuals are employed to frequent lower-class wine shops close to factories where they make the acquaintance of workmen. When the latter are off their guard the German agent slips into their pockets small squares of explosive which when a man returns to his factory will at the first shock burst into flame. The workman thrusts his hand into his pocket, pulls out the burning material and throws it from him, thus involuntarily causing an outbreak of fire and attaining the object of the Germans. Others in Germany's pay scatter incendiary liquids as they leave munition works on weary legs, and in the middle of the night these burst into flame. This explains the large number of fires followed by explosions which have occurred in Spain.

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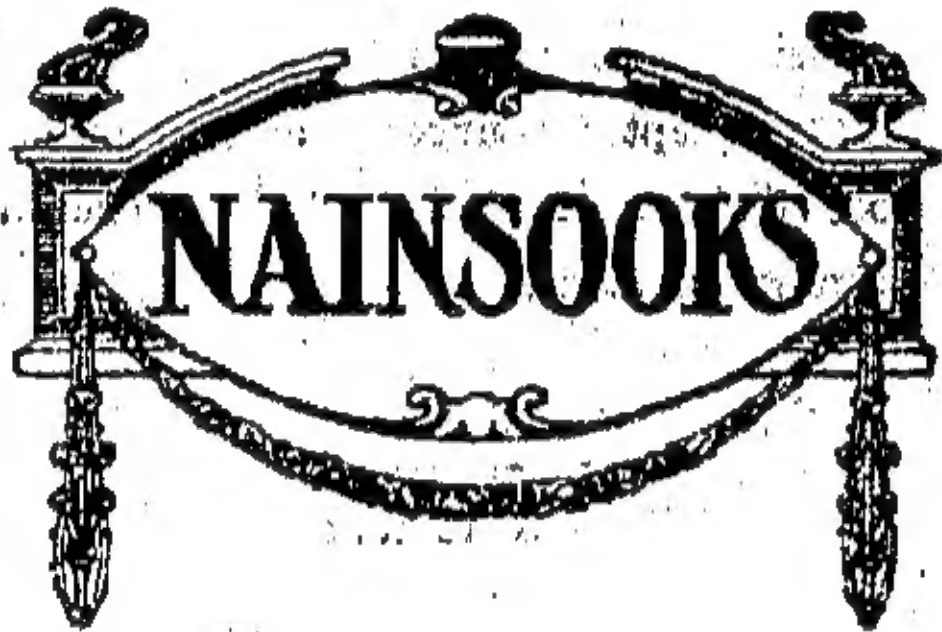
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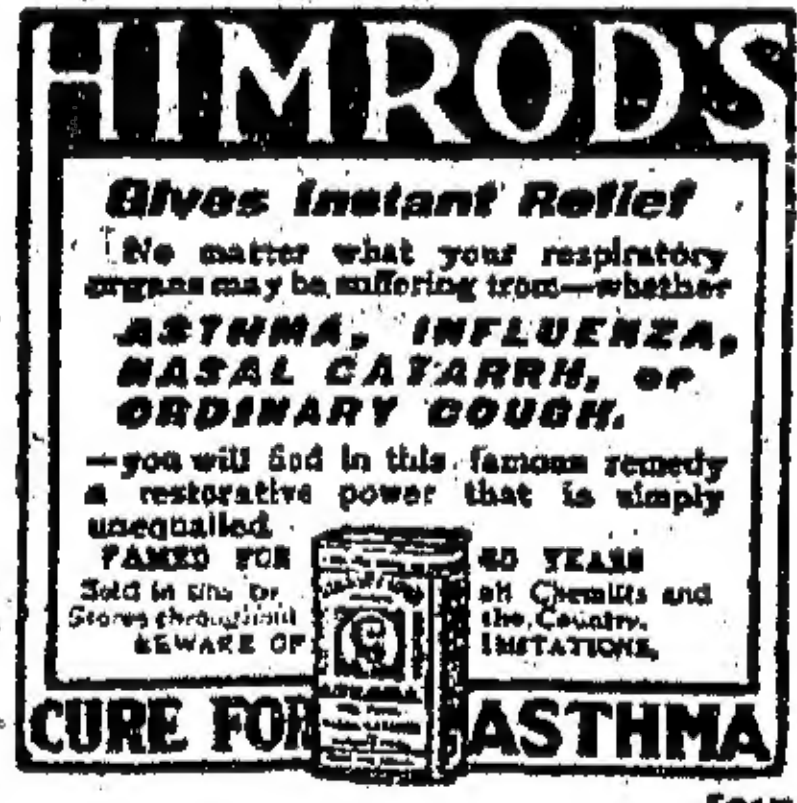
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NOTHING IS MORE EMBARRASSING THAN EXTREME THINNESS.

It is the plump, well-developed man who "eats the melons" and has the fun socially.

Serawny, skinny people are seldom popular. We all admire fat figures. No dressmaker can hide a bony, skinny form.

You ought to test the one guaranteed reliable treatment which has "made good" for years in England, which has taken America by storm and which has been awarded a gold medal and diploma of honour at Brussels, Belgium.

Nothing in history has ever approached the marvellous success of this new treatment, which, according to report, has made more thin folks plump than all the "tonics" and ineffective medicines for fifty years.

There's a reason. Plump, well formed men and women assimilate what they eat. Thin, serawny ones do not.

This new discovery aims to supply the one thing the thin folk lack, that is the power to assimilate food.

It renews the vigour, re-establishes the normal, all in nature's own way. It is not a lead to faded nerves, but a generous upbuilder.

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BRITISH WORKERS AND THE WAR. GREAT DEMONSTRATION IN LONDON.

MR. PAGE'S FACTS

The Ambassadors, Ministers, and other representatives of Allied nations assembled at the French Embassy recently to receive an address expressing the fraternal sentiments of the citizens of London with them in the war; and in reply speeches were made of the greatest interest and importance.

Point was given to the address by a great meeting which was held earlier in Hyde Park. The "demonstration" was organized by the British Workers' League which has been formed since the outbreak of the war to counteract the movement for an early and inconclusive peace and to unite the working-classes in a vigorous prosecution of the war until German militarism and autocracy are overthrown.

The following message from Mr. Lloyd George was read at all the platforms:

May 20th, 1917.

As a citizen of London, I send you my hearty appreciation of the address which you are presenting to the Ambassadors of our Allies.

It brings out clearly the ideals which unite the free peoples of the world in fighting for the universal triumph of popular government as against the arrogant pretensions of a military clique to supreme power.

Lasting peace will come when all the peoples of Europe are free to determine their own fate for themselves. The number of our Allies, as shown in your address, is not only prophetic of the approach of a triumphant peace, but is a proof of the bonds of fraternity and understanding which their heroic sacrifices in the cause of human freedom have established between the democracies of the world.

The meeting adopted a resolution sending fraternal greetings to the peoples of the Allied countries, particularly to their kindred of the United States of America, on their decision to join with the democracies of the Old World in defence of national rights and individual liberty, and to the Russian democracy on its liberation from the autocracy and its determination to maintain its glorious struggle against the power of Kaiserdom, until all the oppressed peoples are freed from the tyranny of the Hohenzollern and Hapsburg autocrats and their confederates.

"NOT AFRAID OF PIKATES."

A procession was afterwards formed to march to the French Embassy at Albert Gate.

The unions carried their great symbolic banners. Loud cheers were evoked by an inscription displayed by the sailors and firemen: "We are men of the sea who are not afraid of the Hun pirates. We meet them daily." Other conspicuous features of the procession were Czech and Montenegrin contingents in their national dress, Belgian workmen, and members of the Société Nationale des Professeurs de Français en Angleterre, and Ecole Culinaire Française. Another body that aroused great enthusiasm was composed of about 100 young men in khaki marching behind a banner with the inscription: "Czech volunteers from the United States." A large number of British and Dominion soldiers accompanied the procession.

PRESENTATION OF THE ADDRESS.

A deputation of the organizers of the demonstration, numbering about 50, women and men, were received at the Embassy by the French Ambassador. The address was read by Mr. Victor Fisher. It expressed the national sentiment of brotherhood with, and appreciation of, the alliance of the democracies of the world in the cause of freedom, humanity, and civilization. The address concluded as follows:—

"We hope that this manifestation of popular sympathy and solidarity on the part of the masses of London's citizens will help to silence the few weak and sinister voices that have been raised in pleas for premature and dastardly peace—a peace whereby all the sacrifices and all the courage of your brothers and ours would be wasted. We have lived through hours as dark with impending disaster as any that nations have ever suffered, and now that the sun of victory is dawning on our horizon, the masses of the British people are more determined than ever to be worthy of their dead, to be worthy of their past, and with you to be no unworthy architects of a future in which war and tyranny shall be banished from the world for all time."

AN ALLIANCE FOR DEFENCE.

M. Paul Cambon said he was deeply touched by the demonstration. The address alluded to the ancient rivalries between France and England. But that was more than a century ago, since when the two countries had been united for the defence of oppressed peoples, and they were allied now not to attack but to defend. (Cheers.) It was an alliance which would defeat the designs of the enemy and would not only allow them to hope for but to be assured of a victorious peace. The demonstration showed that the citizens of London thought as the citizens of France. France had suffered much, they would suffer more; but thanks to the resolution of the nation and the heroism of its Army, they would surmount the barriers set up by the invader. (Cheers.) He read a telegram which he had received from the President of the Council of Ministers in Paris addressed to the organizers of the demonstration. It stated that there was full community of sentiment in the aim of the war—restitution, separation, and guarantee—and the maintenance of a just and durable peace. (Cheers.)

AMERICA'S CONTRIBUTION.

Mr. Page, the American Ambassador, said:—It is particularly pleasing to me to receive this touching and appreciative address from a body of English people. The American people reciprocate the kind feelings you express. They came into this gigantic strife not because they were bound by any treaties or even any undertakings or had anything to gain from it except to come to the support of liberty itself. (Cheers.)

As you know, part of the American Fleet is now in your waters. As you may know, a preliminary expeditionary force will soon land on the sacred soil of France as an earnest of the Army that is to come. (Loud cheers.) Next week a roll is taken of the men subject to conscription in the United States, who are the flower of the Republic—men from 21 to 30. There are 10,000,000 of them, and the first Army that will be equipped will be selected from them. If you need more, there will be another selection, and if you need more, still then another selection. (Cheers.)

There happen to be on this island now more than 1,000 women of the United States who have been trained as nurses and who act under the direction, for the moment, of his Majesty's Government and our most skilled physicians accompanying them. More than that, Commissions are on their way to Russia and to France to do what they can to help in problems of transportation, and we shall send and can send as many men to help in those problems as may be needed, for they do not have to be trained. These services, which yet are not much, but which, if they are needed, will become much, as offered to you and my distinguished colleagues here, and my countries, perfectly freely and as well as we can anything was even given by one nation to another. (Cheers.)

I greet you, I thank you, I pledge you the unwavering courage of the Republic and all its resources to the end, and after the end all its ideals to help rebuild the world which is suffering such a shattering. (Loud cheers.)

ITALY AND NATIONAL RIGHTS.

The Marquis Imperiali said the message would be received and welcomed by all Italians with profound satisfaction and grateful appreciation. The friendship between Italy and Great Britain was based on the solid foundations of love of justice, devotion to freedom, representing for the two democratic countries a common moral platform. The Italians would go on fighting until they had secured the objects of the Allied cause—national rights and human liberty. (Cheers.)

JAPAN'S HELP IN MUNITIONS.

The Japanese Ambassador, in the course of his reply, referred to the "Alliance which binds our two island Empires so strongly," and said:—

This great international pact, always a strong bond of friendship between us, has since the war acquired an additional strength and a new meaning by our exposure of a common cause and by our comradeship in arms, whether engaged in reducing the military stronghold of Germany in Kinohau, in sweeping her naval forces out of the Pacific and Indian Oceans, or in fighting against her acts of piracy in the Mediterranean Sea. The nature of the present occasion prevents me from dwelling further upon the efforts made by Japan on the line of their actual operations of belligerency. There is, however, one point to which I may be permitted to call your attention. Comradeship in arms carries as a necessary complement a comradeship in industry. It is my belief that in this latter comradeship too Japan has not been lagging behind her Allies. The vast army of our workmen have been and are devoting themselves with might and main to the manufacture and supply of munitions, equipping thus their brethren of the West in the conviction that in the sweat of their faces they will help to win war for peace. They feel that every bullet or bomb they turn out spells a blow at the "mailed fist," of which they have felt the menace for so long a time in their part of the globe. (Cheers.)

THE STEADFASTNESS OF RUSSIA.

M. Constantin Nabokoff, the Russian Charge d'Affaires, said:—

I will not fail to convey to the new Russian Government and to the Russian people your inspiring words, which I feel very happy to-day in saying that we will take it for granted that Russia will continue to be loyal and faithful and will actively contribute to the efforts for the desired consummation. (Cheers.) I should like to have a large audience to proclaim that every time the words "separate peace" are mentioned in this country is an insult to Russia. (Cheers.) I have profound and boundless faith in the genius of the Russian people. Can I deny them an elementary sense of honour, elementary wisdom and foresight? These are the only qualities needed to make the Russian people understand that any other course than active and complete cooperation with the Allies would mean disaster and worse than disaster—dishonour. (Cheers.)

There is one symbol I should like to convey to the Russian people—the darkness of the streets of London. That darkness is a symbol of the sacrifices which the nation have made in order to prevent the wanton destruction of what is dearest to them—their homes. They have of their own free will renounced many rights they cherished, such as free choice of occupation, free choice of travel, and last but not least the right they cherish most of all, of free and uncensored expression of their thoughts on certain matters. When the Russian people understand that the same sacrifice is demanded of them, that the great British nation have made of their own free will in the cause of liberty, then we can have full confidence in victory. (Cheers.) When that victory is achieved, I feel certain that the noble device of the great French Republic, "Liberty, Equality, Fraternity," will cease to be a national device and will become the foundation of the free intercourse of all the democracies of the world. (Cheers.) Light will then dawn

(Continued at foot of next column.)

INVADERS' BEDROOM.

MIDNIGHT SCENE AT A WEST END HOTEL.

The invasion of a bedroom at the Regent Palace Hotel by two porters led to action for trespass and slander by Mrs. Mary Gwynne Hughes, wife of a captain in the Australian I.A.M.C., against the hotel company. The case was heard by Mr. Justice Coleridge and a special jury.

According to Mr. A. E. Harney, her counsel, Mrs. Hughes, coming to London in anticipation of her husband's leave from the front, but uncertain as to when he would arrive, took a single room at the hotel. The captain reached London the next day, arriving at the hotel while his wife was on her way to meet him. His luggage was taken to her room. Captain and Mrs. Hughes dined at the hotel, and at the wife's suggestion a stretcher was put in her room for her husband. Some time after they had retired there came a loud knocking at the door, and someone outside shouted "There's a man in this room, and the room is only booked for one." The husband opened the door and two porters forced their way in, shouting "There's a man in this room and he must come down and register."

Mrs. Hughes replied:—"He is prepared to register here," but the porters insisted that he must go downstairs and register. The porters refused to leave, and Mrs. Hughes rang the bell and sent the manager to her. The manager did not come and for two hours these two men, or one of them, remained in the room. Then, apparently, Captain and Mrs. Hughes fell asleep. Captain Hughes signed the register in the morning and then went off to the front.

Mr. Holman Gregory, K.C., for the hotel company, said no allegation had been made against the lady's character. The head porter stated that he went up to the room with his assistant, Captain Hughes admitted that he had not registered, but said that he did not think it necessary to go down and do so. Mrs. Hughes flew into a rage and told them that her husband would not come down. Only one porter went into the room.

Mr. Harney: You waited in the room until 1.20. Why did you not wait outside after that?—Because I thought I had waited long enough.

Mr. Justice Coleridge: He was not Casablanca.

The jury awarded Mrs. Hughes £100 for trespass. There was no slander, they said. A stay of execution upon payment of the money into court was granted.

YEAR'S WORK AT GREENWICH.

DISCOVERY OF A NEW STAR.

The annual visitation of the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, took place on June 1st. The Astronomer Royal presented his report to the Board of Visitors. The work has been considerably restricted owing to the absence of five junior assistants and 18 computers who are serving in the Army or Navy. Special efforts have, however, been made to maintain all the lines of observation in which a breach of continuity would be serious. The error of the moon's place as given in the Nautical Almanac was minus 10 seconds of arc, and is increasing nearly a second a year. Fortunately the improved lunar tables of Dr. Ernest Brown will be ready shortly.

Special attention has been paid to stellar proper motions; those of 12,000 stars in the zone between North Declination 24deg. and 32deg. have been determined. The results confirm the accuracy of Kapteyn's formula, giving the "distance of stars as a function of their magnitude and proper motion. Professor Barnard discovered last year a faint star with the unprecedented motion of 10 1/2 seconds per annum, which proves to be the nearest known star in the northern hemisphere, its light taking 8 1/2 years to reach us. Several observations, and photographs of this star were obtained at Greenwich.

Pairs of photographs of several star fields, taken at intervals of some 15 years, have been sent to Mr. Innes at Johannesburg for study with the Blink microscope, which is a very effective method of detecting stars that have changed their positions in the interval. He has detected many considerable motions, but his most interesting discovery is not on a Greenwichean plate; it is a faint star about 2deg. distant from Alpha Centauri, which he has discovered to share the large proper motion of that star, so that there are good grounds for suspecting it to be a distant companion. This would be specially interesting, since Alpha Centauri is our nearest stellar neighbour.

An important piece of work has been carried out by Mr. S. Chapman—the preparation of the charts of magnetic declination for all parts of the world, reduced to the year 1917. It is the first time that this work has been carried out at Greenwich.

on the world out of the present darkness. (Loud cheers.)

OTHER SPEECHES.

M. Paul Hymans, the Belgian Minister, said the demonstration was a most impressive testimony to the noble British people's friendship for Belgium, and the close union of the two countries for the defence of right and freedom.

M. Misiu, the Roumanian Minister, said the support of the great Allied democracies would bring the present barbarous war to a happy end, and secure in the future a lasting peace and the free development of all nationalities.

Sir Roger Parkington, Consul-General of Montenegro, said it was true to-day to say the world was composed of human beings and Germans, and during the remainder of the century no Germans could rank as human or civilized beings. (Laughter and cheers.)

General Carlos Geyria Valez, the Cuban Minister, said Cuba was the small brother of the United States, and wherever the big brother went the little brother followed. If troops from the United States came over, some Cuban troops would be found among them. (Cheers.)

Senhor M. Teixeira Gomes, the Portuguese Minister, and M. Yovanovitch, the Serbian Minister, also replied.

"SHOULDER COMRADES."

[BY G. VINCE.]

Let us be just even to those whom we condemn and intend to destroy. The German Kaiser has brought great benefits to humanity. It is thanks to him that British and Americans instead of being merely relatives with a suspicion of one another and only a grudging appreciation, are now "shoulder comrades." That is a very old phrase. It comes from the time of King Alfred, so that Americans may feel that it is their phrase as well as ours. A "shoulder comrade" is the man whom you know to be there at your side. You know it without seeing him, for you are both too busy to be watching one another, yet though you do not see him, you know that that side of you is safe; there is a man there who will die before he deserts you.

It is for the opportunity of shoulder comradeship that we may give such thanks as he deserves to Kaiser Wilhelm. Through him so many nations are bound and vowed together in the one cause, as have never been since the days of the Crusades. Through him there is a broad free-masonry between the men of the Allied Powers that will be a greater power in the affairs of the future, even than the Kaiser had dreamed of making German Kultur.

You may imagine what a fine thing the memory of that comradeship will be. Think of a British brigadier, in another ten years, who has fought in France. There are two bits of gold braid, and other such things, a German helmet, a Frenchman's water bottle taking the place of honour among the decorations of his room. The brigadier does not know much about foreign politics—not much more indeed than in the old days, but he knows one or two things about the French (and about the Germans too) which no politicians knew before the war. He will not know very much about India and the problems of the East, but he will know some things about their people that go to the credit of his own. He knows the bricklayers in Great Britain ever knew before. As he reads his paper he will come across perhaps some reference to the Gurkhas and will put down his paper to tell his wife "We saw a lot of them chaps up at X—." We used to say "Hello, John" or "Salaam" to them and they grinned at us. Good little fellows they were. They made a fine charge the day I got that present from the Huns in me. He will point to the bullet, elaborately mounted, which stands on the mantelpiece and describe how the Gurkhas used to bake their chapatties. His wife will smile though she has heard him tell the story many a time.

Such men will remember their shoulder comrades when they read of other countries, though the majority after the war will never see them again. There will be a memory running through the peoples themselves, of past deeds and sufferings in common, such as there has never been in the past, and because of that all the relations of politicians and diplomats will be changed. And because of that also, the relations between all classes will be changed. We shall live the rest of our lives with memories of our shoulder comrades; we shall have always the pleasant knowledge that wherever we go among classes that are not our own, we go as life that are most unfamiliar to us, we may at any turn meet with one of them.

I shall always remember a certain two minutes of waiting before we went over the top. Those last minutes of waiting for the barrage to lift and let you away are the times that try a man. I glanced up and down the bit of trench where we were; at the other end was a sergeant, a tall man with a heavy black moustache. There was no Dutch courage in that man. He was cool and steady, just waiting for the signal. As he looked for it I caught his eye. I shall always see that look in his eye. There are times when men will look into one another's eyes (and this was one of them) without any change of the face. We did not smile, or do anything but look at one another. But I knew that he had only to look to me for help, and it would be given, or I to him. I have never seen him since. He may be dead; but I still hope that some day I may catch his eye again.

Then there was Captain L—. He only got out to the front after many attempts, because he was old. But he had that same gift. He could make men his shoulder comrades with a look. He never spoke very much, but he always had a smile or a word of praise for good work done; and he was never known to get nearer giving an order than "Come along boys with me." The Germans would have said there was no discipline in his company. There was not—as they understand it. But Captain L— would only to step out of a trench for the men to follow him, and when at last he died in a trench in the Hindenburg line, dropped into it dead, with a machine gun bullet in him, his men held that trench against all the odds, held it even when told to retire, because he had led them to it.

We shall have such shoulder comrades now to remember, not only on both sides the channel but on both sides the Atlantic. Even if the war were to end to-morrow and no American army ever came to France, we should have things to remember, the spirit in which America joined the cause and how she set herself to prepare. These things already have helped the Allies immeasurably, she has become our shoulder comrade. Already she is fighting by our side at sea, and she will fight by us in the trenches. And as a result of that comradeship our bricklayer, after the war, will read of America as he will read of France and India, in a new way. That name too will stir memories and set him telling tales.

No man, when the war is over, will be able to speak or write of these countries that have stood with us, without remembering that he speaks to thousands who will judge his words in the light of their own knowledge. That is the new influence that will move among all our discussion of affairs and all our relations with one another and with other peoples, the memory that the thousands have of their shoulder comrades.

THE RUSSIAN ARMY.

PAST AND PRESENT.

[BY "THE DAILY TELEGRAPH'S" MILITARY CORRESPONDENT.]

A reliable system of military information is indispensable to a modern State, whether in peace or war. With the world-wide interests and connections, such an organ was at the disposal of the British Government if it had chosen to make use of the zeal, intelligence, and ability of our commercial travellers, journalists, and military officers who learnt foreign languages and explored foreign countries at their own expense. There is no possible excuse for the ignorance which has reigned in our official circles concerning the state of Russia and its capacity for a prolonged war. Even if no special exertions had been made to collect up-to-date information; the experiences of her last two wars gave a fair measure of her military power. The blindness of the British authorities in civil, military, and diplomatic—almost has been inexplicable and very culpable. Russia, like other nations, has improved her army after each great war. The Manchurian struggle, fought under circumstances, which from several points of view, were extraordinarily unfavourable for the European Power, could never have been waged by the Russian army or State of 1877. The war was extremely unpopular in Russia, and synchronised with the outbreak of the formidable revolutionary movement of 1905 in its critical stage. Domestic troubles rather than military shortcomings accounted for the great Japanese triumph. In spite of many faults of leadership and organization, the Russian troops fought at Liao-yang and Mukden with extraordinary courage and obstinacy, and, in spite of all failures, the mighty problems of transport and supply, upon which the existence of a great army connected with its base by a single railway several thousand miles in length, were solved much more successfully than anyone anticipated. After the war the revolutionary movement became dangerous to the autocracy, but was severely repressed. Then various military reforms were inaugurated. If the ablest War Minister of all time had been entrusted with the execution of these reforms in contemporary Russia he could not have brought his country into the same class with France and Germany as a military Power. We shall see, however, how much was actually accomplished.

FROM 1905 TO 1914.

In spite of the confusion and dislocation which followed the peace with Japan, both by reason of the return and incorporation of the great Manchurian with the Western army, and also because of the political disorders of the day, yet important military reforms were inaugurated without undue delay. The two great weaknesses of Russia in face of Germany were the inferior character of her officer corps, socially, educationally, and technically, and the poverty of her railway system, which hampered all movements of troops whether for concentration or defence. An officer corps is the growth of time, and needs corresponding classes in the nation to provide its personnel. The aristocracy and bourgeoisie classes of Western Europe, fortified by the traditions of feudal times and inherited ideas of military honour, contribute young men competent to officer troops. But Russia has very limited numbers of such families in proportion to her vast population and to the vast numbers of soldiers she disposed of for training and leadership. To find competent officers, even for the Staff and Higher Commands, not to reckon the vast numbers required to lead the troops of the line, was a most difficult problem, which constantly became harder. The first reforms after the Japanese War aimed at extending the system of technical education for officers, besides preparing boys at school for the career. These measures had begun to produce important results by 1914, and the improved leadership of the Russian forces was one of the most unpleasant surprises experienced by the enemy at the beginning of the war.

Russian Poland had projects like a bastion between Prussia and Austrian territory. Owing to the greater facilities for railway concentration possessed by these Powers, it had become necessary to withdraw the zone of assembly of the Central Russian army to the Eastern frontier of Poland. A remarkably skilful scheme of concentrating the Russian armies was organised, which worked with astonishing accuracy and speed in the fateful August days, 1914. The mobilisation of the Russian army was incomparably more difficult and complicated than the same operation for any of the Western States.

It must be admitted, however, that the railway reorganisation, which should have been the corollary of the other reforms, did not work out so satisfactorily. The Russian railways were hampered by an obsolete system of management and by bad officials, many of whom were German by blood if not by sympathy. Large sums of money were assigned to railway construction, but in the nine years between 1905 to 1914 little was done, and some of the most essential lines, such as that from Petrograd to the ice-free port of Kola, in the Arctic Sea, had not been opened when war broke out. Moreover, both the main lines connecting the frontier districts with the provincial centres of Russia, and the transverse lines by which troops might have been manoeuvred when fighting began on the frontier were very inferior to what was required. This inferiority told against the Russians with effect throughout the fierce battles for the possession of Poland.

THE OUTBREAK OF WAR.

When the German Government hurled its ultimatum at the Petrograd Cabinet on July 21st, 1914, the Russian forces had already begun to assume formidable dimensions, since the danger had been foreseen for some weeks. Vilna, Brest-Litovsk, and Kiief were the central

"DUTY AND DISCIPLINE."

RUSSIAN WAR MINISTER'S ARMY ORDER.

In the course of a striking Order of the Day, issued at the end of May, M. Kerensky, Minister of War, said:—"You will advance in serried ranks, united by discipline and duty by an unbounded love for the Revolution and the country. Let the Army and the Fleet, which are the freest in the world, prove that liberty is the pledge of strength and not of weakness. Let them forge a new discipline of iron, that of duty, and increase the combative power of the country. Remember that whoever looks behind, stops, or draws back will lose everything. Do not forget that if you do not defend the honour, liberty, and dignity of the country your names will be cursed. The will of the people must rid the country and the world of violators and usurpers. Such is the high ideal to which I call you."

The Minister of War also issued an Order of the Day announcing the coming into force of the rights of the soldier as drawn up in conformity with paragraph 11 of the Provisional Government's Declaration of March 20th. The Order of the Day consists of 18 paragraphs, the most important of which permit soldiers, no matter in what connection, liberty of conscience and of political opinion, and authorization to wear civilian clothes when not on duty.

The 12th paragraph abolishes the obligatory military salute, leaving it optional. Paragraph 14 stipulates that no soldier can be punished without trial, but adds that, during war operations, commanders have the right to take all repressive measures and even to employ armed force against subordinates who are not executing their orders.

RUSSIA'S EARLY TRIALS.

THE INDICTMENT AGAINST GEN. SUKHOMLINOFF.

The indictment against General Sukhomlinoff, who was Minister of War in 1914, states that the lack of munitions was felt on the Russian front from the very beginning of the war. Despite reiterated demands, General Sukhomlinoff did nothing.

Shortly afterwards the Army began to feel the pressing need of rifles, and the reinforcements sent to the front had only one rifle between two men, and later still less. At last, whole detachments were sent to the theatre of war completely unarmed. Towards the middle of October, 1914, there were 870,000 men without rifles. As the result of the negligence of General Sukhomlinoff, the Army was also terribly short of machine-guns, to the extent, in August, 1915, of 22,000; while in January, 1915, more than 100,000,000 cartridges were lacking. Very soon there was an absolute dearth of munitions on the Galician front, where some detachments abandoned their positions because they had nothing to fire.

The indictment includes correspondence exchanged between the French Ambassador, M. Paléologue, and General Sukhomlinoff. At the request of General Sukhomlinoff, the French Ambassador on Sept. 20th demanded that six Russian Armies should be assured of sufficient supplies and munitions for continuous action.

In a letter to the French Ambassador General Sukhomlinoff endeavoured to assuage the anxiety felt in France by declaring that the Allies need have no uneasiness about the equipment in question.

Before the commission of inquiry General Sukhomlinoff repudiated all the accusations brought against him, declaring that he had faithfully followed the programme for the arming and equipping of the Army which had been drawn up in 1904, after the Russo-Japanese War, by the Supreme Committee of Defence.

points of the mighty mobilisation. The Vilna army was destined to strike at East Prussia, so as to prevent the whole German army being employed against France. The central mass had to reinforce the army corps at Warsaw and in the Vistula entrenched camps; while the southern mass was destined to invade Galicia and strike at the main Austrian army. The Kiief army, based on the richest part of Russia and possessing the best railways, was the most formidable part of the Russian host from the beginning of the war.

The Grand Duke Nicholas was the first generalissimo, and he neglected no precaution which might conduce to victory. His strategy was sound in the main, and his movements were carried out with energy and planned with forethought. It was reasonable to expect that if the thrust into Prussia indirectly checked the invaders of France, while the Austrians were driven out of Poland and defeated in Galicia, that the famous French army, reinforced and sustained by the British, and having the control of the sea, by the grace of the British Navy, might be counted upon to hold its own against the Germans, if not to defeat them. The German successes in France balanced the Russian successes in Galicia; the fortification of the German line from the sea to the Alps, so that they had no anxiety about their flanks, rendered possible the great surprise attack by Mackensen of the Danube and the calamitous campaign which followed.

The Russian military system stood the strain of fighting Austria with one-fourth of the German army successfully for eight months and a half—that is to say, for two and a half months longer than France held out in 1870. Neither the military resources nor the political circumstances of the Russian Empire were calculated to prolong the struggle successfully beyond that time, having regard to the backward state of her industries, the shortcomings of her railways, and the intense fury and energy of contemporary warfare.

THE FOREIGN LEGION.

DARING AND IDEALISM.

[BY "THE TIMES" SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.]

I found myself yesterday (May 22nd) in the village which, for the moment, is the headquarters of the Foreign Legion, and I had a long talk with some of the officers and men who took part in the furious fighting which resulted, after a six days' struggle, in the capture of the Mont Sans Nom and the rest of the front, from three to four miles long, between the Moronvilliers massif and Auberville. From what they said and also from a detailed explanation of the battle given to me by the General who commanded the division of which they formed the right wing, I was able to realize to some extent the extraordinary difficulties which he and they had had to face, and the magnificent heroism of the Legion and the other troops on their left.

The attack began on April 17th and the advance of the left wing of the division was so rapid that by the 15th, when I climbed up to their new positions on the *maquis*, they had at this point taken a block of ground about three miles square, including the Mont Sans Nom. Immediately to the right, and especially just west of Auberville, where the Legion was attacking, the work was harder and progress slower; and on that day, and the next four, under a bombardment that never stopped for a moment, night or day, it was only little by little, almost foot by foot, that they fought their way forward, adding a new stretch of ground to the reconquered territory in each 24 hours in the teeth of most desperate resistance by the Saxon troops in front of them.

HAND-TO-HAND STRUGGLES.

If you look at a map marked to show the extent of the advance on each of the six days you see a big black on the left as the fruits of the first day's fighting and on the right a network of irregular little patches—the big block being to each little patch as Yorkshire is to each of the small patches of the daily progress during the rest of the week. Each one of these little patches was the scene of violent *mitelles*—always, remember, under the eternal rain of shells, sometimes at the rate of 3,000 an hour, on a position not much bigger than Trafalgar-square, in which men of the Legion fought with grenades and rifles at distances of 20 or 30 yards and then closed in on the enemy till they were struggling hand-to-hand and foot-to-foot with rifle butts and bayonets. Again and again at one point or another they were driven back and forced to give way by the machine-gun fire enfilading the positions they had reached, and again, and again they advanced till they had finally forced the Germans, or all that were left of them, to retreat.

On the whole front of less than five miles the attacking force, which beside the Legion, was composed of two regiments, all of whom fought magnificently, took 1,100 prisoners, 20 guns, 68 *mitrailleurs*, 47 machine-guns, and inflicted very heavy losses on the eight regiments of the enemy.

The Legion itself suffered severely, as it was bound to in fighting of this character. Early in the battle the colonel, the idol of his men, was killed.

But they had another reason for fighting with particular grimness. It was told me by an officer of the Corps, a thoughtful, serious, sad-looking Swiss who joined the Legion as a private on the outbreak of war and has lost man after man, and officer after officer among his friends, swept away by the hand of death. There was one thing they did in the newspapers, but never before seen with his own eyes.

"We were having a particularly hot scrap," he said, "when suddenly some of them, as far as I could see unarmed, jumped out of their trench and came towards me holding up their hands and crying, 'Kamerad!' I ordered my men to stop firing; but before they reached us the whole line of them dropped into another trench, and from it there were about 50 of them—started a heavy grenade fire on my company, many of whom were by this time in the open and were mown down by these *Kameraden*, and a still larger body of them, and they stayed hidden in the farther trench when they jumped out, as I thought, to surrender."

HAND AS STEEL.

This officer was not a man who cared to talk about himself; but other people told me that, with only a corporal and two men, he went to Auberville well ahead of any other troops before it was known that the enemy had come out of it after defending it against all French attacks for more than two years. But about his men he would, I think, have talked all day. For him, and many others as well, they are the finest troops the French have got, as hard as steel and with an incredible disregard for death and danger. The General commanding the division, who won an extra Palm for his *Croix de Guerre* and was created a Commander of the Legion of Honour for the way in which he conducted the battle, talks of their courage with the same glowing and affectionate enthusiasm.

That, however, was to be expected. It is a commonplace of the whole glorious story of the Legion's battles. But in this war the Legion, at present composed of men of over 50 different nationalities, about half of them Swiss, has won a different and higher distinction. They are men who, as was said in their last mention in dispatch after this Champagne battle, are inspired with a hatred of the enemy and with the highest spirit of sacrifice. They are desperate fighters because they are fighting for an ideal. They have joined the Legion because they are possessed by a love of liberty which was not in the old days regarded as its chief recruiting officer, and because they believe that it is for liberty above all things that the Allies are fighting. Their conscience objects to the terms of slavery that Germany wishes to impose on the rest of the world.

ON THE SHORE OF THE WESTERN EGYPTIAN DESERT

[BY C. G. E. MARSHAM.]

A short description of the Coastal belt of the Western Desert and of our doings therein may be of interest to the outside world for two reasons—first, that it is a country unique in many ways; and, second, that it has very seldom been visited by modern Europeans till last year, when the Senussi, at the instigation of German emissaries, were foolish enough to make us their enemies.

The idea which most people have of a desert is, I think, an endless waste of sand with here and there an oasis or palm trees and a mirage of cool water ever tantalizing the thirsty traveller. Nor would this be a very bad description of the desert East of Suez. This part of the Western Desert is, however, of a totally different character. Imagine vast spaces of hard strong ground as flat as the sea, covered for the most part with shrubby plants growing 20 or 30 yards apart and interspersed with innumerable white flowered asphodels. These plants and the desert snail appeared to be ubiquitous—the latter is about an inch in diameter, round and white, and I have seen it so thick on the ground that it looked as if there had been a heavy hailstorm. The Beduins eat it, and no doubt it has saved many men's lives, but I do not recommend it except for the starving. The ordinary Whitebait oyster is good enough for me.

The flatness of the ground above mentioned has the effect of shortening the range of vision, and we often found it difficult to use a helio for long distances owing to the mirage being brought below the horizon by the convexity of the earth. The bird-life is extremely interesting, especially in spring and autumn, when large numbers of migrants arrive on the coast. The commonest birds are the water wagtail and the crested lark. There was a dapper little black and white bird at Sollum called, I believe, the Western mourning chat; and the cream-coloured curlew, a very local bird, was fairly common at Matruh. I saw a pair of lesser bustards when driving in a car from Sollum to Matruh, and there were ravens, crows, and several of the hawk tribe. Large numbers of quail arrive in spring and autumn. To catch them the Arabs use small nets, such as are used for ferreting rabbits, over the bushes and then strike the birds before them. They run into the bushes to hide and are caught in the nets. They are then taken out alive and bought by the ubiquitous Greek trader, who puts them into crates and sends them to Alexandria, whence in due course they find their way to the Ritz or the Savoy—or, at least, they did so before war put an end to the transport of luxuries.

Foxes are common in the desert, and jackals, not rare; it is rather a puzzle to know what they live on, but I imagine that their chief food is the jerboa, which is very plentiful. There is also a small hare, and we occasionally saw gazelle. Many fossil shells can be picked up in the desert proving that all this great area was once under the sea. It was interesting, too, to come across traces of earlier visitors. Roman remains are fairly numerous, among others a villa at Matruh, a good deal of which still remains. Cleopatra is said to have lived there at one time, perhaps, her Antony in attendance. I was informed on good authority that there were two tombs at Sollum made by Israelites before the time of the Babylonian exile.

The Romans used to get over the great difficulty of want of water partly by cutting large cisterns out of the solid rock in places suitable for catching the floods caused by the winter rains.

To many of us coming direct from the naked barrens of the Sinai Peninsula the number and variety of the flowers was a delightful surprise; and for this Sollum surely bears the palm. In the distance it appears a most inhospitable collection of rocks and precipices, but wander into any one of the many ravines and you will find yourself in a wild rock garden lovely beyond description. The piquant contrast between the wild character of the country and the beauty of the flowers makes Sollum a most attractive place. But Matruh has its beauties, too, of a gentler sort. Nowhere else have I seen sandhills so white or sea water so blue; indeed, I was even moved to the perpetration of verse to celebrate its varied attractions.

"An Azure sky—dark blue the open sea—
The waves break white against the harbour reef."

Above floats a gossamer veil of cloud, Its shadow drifting over sea and land, Alternate sun and shadow, grey and gold, Corolla of happiness. The tyrant sun Not long allows his glory to be dimmed. The distant sandhills catch his cheerful ray, Hero happy flowers bloom among the rocks, Their roots deep buried in the yellow sand, Lilies and little mauve thyme-scented things, And fifty others, nameless, wonderful, A fairy garden to the breakers' edge, A wilderness of waters in the north, And to the south a wilderness of sand. The harbour is the haunt of birds—the tow, The mallard, purple heron and the tern, The desolate wheater and the crested lark; Or flies dark winged along the stony waste— A land of hills and flowers, sand and palm, And Arab children laughing in the sun."

But what, I can hear the reader say, has all this to do with soldiering? We do not pay and feed men in war time to pick flowers and collect butterflies. No, but a man may be a soldier and not be blind to these things. During our stay in the Western Desert we had no chance, as it turned out, of actual fighting. The Senussi had apparently too far away for infantry to act against them in the waterless country, and eventually Mahomet had to go to the Mountain in an armoured car. Yet was our time by no means wasted; we were so glad to learn the tricks of a new trade, the trade of the infantry soldier. Some things, indeed, we knew before from our experience on Gallipoli; but infantry drill and infantry tactics in open fighting were new to us; and these things cannot be learnt in a week. So there were drill and

(Continued at foot of next column.)

MR. LONG ON EMPIRE IDEALS

PRESENTATION OF THE 98TH AND 100TH AEROPLANES FROM THE OVERSEAS CLUB.

Mr. Walter Long, Secretary of State for the Colonies, spoke on Empire Day at the seventh annual meeting of the Overseas Club and presented to Sir David Henderson a cheque for the purchase of the 98th and 100th aeroplanes given by members of the Club to the Royal Flying Corps.

Lord Northcliffe, president of the Club, called attention to the duty of the Home and Dominion Governments to prepare, without delay, plans for the welfare of soldiers and sailors when they return to civil life.

I am not going to refer to the particular work that you have done during the war. It is a wonderful record—all these moneys that you have collected, all these purposes that by your collections you have served, all that you propose to do, as Lord Northcliffe told us, in connection with the wise and proper provision for those who have fought for us on sea and land after the war. All these are great and admirable war objects. I know from information I have had within the last few days, from men who have come from the other side, how efficient and how wonderfully successful have been our airmen and their machines, and how magnificent has been the work that they have done for the Empire. Nobody can measure to-day, nor will anybody be able to do so until the war is over, what services these men have rendered in giving their lives by saving the lives of countless other men. Their work has been heroic, and I am very glad that it falls to my lot, not only to bear this testimony in the presence of Sir David Henderson, but to convey to him your generous gifts.

THE REALIZATION OF EMPIRE.

It is not so very long since we talked about our Overseas possessions as our "Colonial" possessions. I have rather an affection for that word. It is old-fashioned. But it will not do to-day. Like many other old-fashioned words it was badly abused. It was used constantly as a term rather of contempt. Let us admit the truth. There were in this country those who failed altogether to realize the future of our Overseas Dominions; the great part they were destined to play in the future of the Empire. And there are some still who are blind to the great possibilities of the British Empire. There are some still who, when they are talking of the future of the end of this war, concentrate all their attention on Europe, and the British Empire is seen from this comparatively narrow standpoint. The British Empire extends the world over, and some of its greatest possibilities are to be found in some of its most distant parts. Only those who will act for the future of the Empire who will look widely over it, and who, when they are thinking of its future, will realise its greatness and its strength and the difficulty and dangers that are inseparable from its greatness and its strength.

We are called upon to-day to realize that we must make this Empire what it ought to be—the greatest, the most closely united, the most self-reliant, the most progressive, the most peace-loving Empire in the world. If it is not made that, it will be because our people refuse to realize facts as they are, and to see for themselves the immense potentialities which are contained in the distant parts of our vast possessions.

THE BEST AEROPLANES.

Sir David Henderson, in accepting the cheque for two aeroplanes, said:—"I can give you now an assurance which I could not have given before, and that is that whatever kind of aeroplane you wish to be purchased with this money, whether fighting machines or reconnaissance aeroplanes or artillery aeroplanes or training machines, thanks to the Air Board you can now get the best of the kind. I have had to carry a heavy burden for five years in trying to get sufficient of the best kind of aeroplanes for our Royal Flying Corps. It has been a very difficult task. Now, thank God, we are likely to get them; not from me, but from the better men who have got it in hand. I must also thank Mr. W. Long for what he has said about the Royal Flying Corps. It is a fine body and is doing its work as well as anybody could do it. Our men are as gallant and fine a lot of young men as you will find in any army in the world. (Cheers.) I wish to thank you very much for this contribution. We will try to make the very best use of it."

lectures and musketry and field days and plenty of work to keep us employed, and certain it is that the Brigade left the Western Desert a far more formidable unit than when it arrived.

Our chief recreations were football, bathing and cricket—the latter a weird form of game on a matting wicket regarded by the camels and their drivers with supercilious contempt. The place had its drawbacks, of course. Those of us who went down to the sea in ships whether on duty or on leave had some disagreeable voyages. Some of the craft provided on this coast were of great age; in the calmest sea they rolled and pitched, and then the smells—but I will say no more, they will always remain a nightmare to me.

Our other chief unpleasantness was the dust-storms. I do not say they were worse than in other parts of Egypt—probably they were not as bad—but they were a great nuisance while they lasted, it being impossible to keep the face and out of food or clothing, eyes or mouth. These, however, were very minor evils, and altogether Matruh and Sollum were exceedingly grateful and comforting to those of us who had spent a winter in Gallipoli and summer in the Western Desert.

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